DOCK STEPS DOWN AS LAKESHORE FOOTBALL COACH

Sports, B1

Old-fashioned 'Michigan winter' is fading fast

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The Herald-Palladium

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Don Campbell / HP staff

Shelly Keller of Three Oaks is taking advantage of the Futures for Frontliners program offered through the state and Lake Michigan College. Hundreds of area students are now seeking two-year degrees free of charge under the state program rewarding "frontline" employees who worked during the pandemic.

The future holds opportunity

Area frontline workers take advantage of free college program

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — Shelly Keller is a firm believer in taking advantage of learning opportunities.

"I've had the career and made decent money, but I never had that degree to back up my resume," Keller said.

When the Three Oaks resident saw Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announce the Futures for Frontliners program that would allow people who worked in essential industries during the pandemic to get their associate's degree for free, she jumped on the opportunity.

"I thought, 'What's the catch?' But it turned out to be really a great program," Keller said. "It was fairly simple to apply. I just followed the instructions. Here I am at 47 years old, starting out in a whole new direction, learning all new stuff because of this program. It gave me that opportunity."

She said the hardest part was waiting to hear if she was accepted.

The program

Lucian Leone, director of admissions at Southwestern Michigan College, said this program has not only opened education opportunities for thousands of Michiganders, but greatly helped the community colleges, too.

"Just because of the issues of COVID-19, and so many classes being online, and so many people being out of work, generally speaking, enrollments at community colleges around the country are not increasing," he said. "Frankly, because of Futures for Frontliners, and the students that it brought to us, we'll be able to be much more closer to even. It hasn't given us a big surge, but it minimized the decline."

Michigan residents qualify for the program if they worked in an essential industry between April 1 and June 30 last year, and did not already have a college degree. It also allows those without a high school diploma or equivalency to access services to help them prepare for and complete one. The program pays the in-district tuition rate, after any federal aid has been applied.

The application deadline was Dec. 31, and students could enroll, starting with the current semester. The spring semester at Lake Michigan College starts on Monday, and the spring semester at SMC begins Jan. 25.

SMC received 759 applications for the program. Of that, 221 new and current students will be attending classes this spring.

"I think a good percentage of those remaining 500 will hopefully be starting classes in either the summer or fall, because they only had to apply by Dec. 31, but had to start classes sometime in 2021," Leone said.

Jeremy Schaeffer, director of admissions and recruitment at LMC, said he's hopeful more will start in the summer and fall at LMC, as well. The college received 1,709 applications, with 268 attending this spring.

He said Futures for Frontliners students who enrolled at LMC this spring semester make up about 33 percent of the college's new enrollment.

The number of people who applied statewide was over 100,000, according to the state's website in mid-December before the deadline.

What they're pursuing

While Keller is looking to get a medical assisting degree and an associates degree in applied science from LMC, others are considering music therapy, criminal justice and other health care degrees.

Schaeffer said of the degree programs students have been interested in, health care has been the biggest.

"Knowing the population that was working on the front lines during the shutdown, it makes a lot of sense," he said. "They're looking to advance, whether that be in our nursing program, some of the medical imaging, and our medical assistant program."

Beyond that, there has been a lot of interest in business and computer information systems, as well as skilled trades, such as welding.

Schaeffer said the trend has been people looking to earn degrees in the field they already work in, to advance their careers.

See **PROGRAM**, page A5

Arguments heard in Paredes' 'juvenile lifer' case

Judge says decision expected by end of March

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

PAREDES

ST. JOSEPH — Efran Paredes' case is one of "manipulation and a desire to kill," former Berrien County Prosecutor Michael Sepic told a Berrien County Trial Court judge Friday.

But Paredes' lawyer, Stuart Friedman, argued that Paredes is a "changed man."

Friedman is fighting for Paredes to be re-sentenced, while Sepic is arguing for him to remain in prison for life without parole. The lawyers presented final oral arguments in the case to Judge Charles LaSata, who said he will render his decision in the case sometime in March.

Paredes was 15 when on March 8, 1989, he and accomplices robbed the Roger's Vineland supermarket when it was on Vineland Avenue in St. Joseph Township. Paredes was a part-time bagger at the store.

Despite Paredes' claim that he was "set up," a jury found him guilty of first-degree felony murder after hearing testimony in 1989 that after closing time, he lured night manager Richard Tetzlaff, 28, into a back room, shot him four times, then took cash and checks.

He was handed the then-mandatory sentence of life without parole.

But in 2012 the U.S. Supreme Court, in the case of Miller vs. Alabama, ruled that mandatory life without

See **PAREDES**, page A2

Man who killed SH police officer in 1976 up for parole

Allegan County prosecutor will object to release of Charles Dixon

MCALLISTER

DIXON

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

Allegan County Prosecutor Myrene Koch was only 5 when a fugitive, wanted for hijacking a plane, gunned down South Haven Police Officer Michael McAllister.

Forty-five years following the shooting on North Shore Drive, Koch is now tasked with objecting to the possibility of parole for Charles Frederick Dixon.

"We do not feel it is appropriate for him to be released," she said. "He killed an officer for no reason."

The shooting of McAllister, 39, occurred at 2:45 a.m., Jan. 9, 1976, on North Shore Drive, just west of 74th Street in Casco Township.

McAllister had responded to a call about shots being fired, according to previous articles written in the South Haven Tribune. When he arrived on scene he saw Dixon, then 35, walking. He stopped to question him. But when McAllister tried to frisk the man, he was shot twice, with a third bullet ending up lodged in a tree. Dixon then tried to shoot back-up officer Lawrence Bild, but his gun clip malfunctioned.

See **PAROLE**, page A2

Guard activated at Michigan Capitol amid increased security

Carlos Osorio / AP

Dakota Pitz joins temporary fencing outside the state Capitol in Lansing on Friday. Crews also worked on offices across the street from the state Capitol ahead of expected armed protests on Sunday.

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer activated the National Guard, the state police continued to augment its presence at the Capitol and crews installed a 6-foot, chain-link fence around the 142-year-old building before expected protests ahead of President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration.

The Legislature on Friday also canceled session next week, citing law enforcement's concerns about "credible threats regarding events" at the Capitol.

Michigan State Police Col. Joe Gasper said an unknown number of demonstrators were expected to gather on the grounds Sunday, a week-and-a-half after the deadly breach by a mob of President Donald Trump's supporters at the U.S. Capitol. Troopers were being mobilized from across the state and will be joined by the National Guard and local law enforcement.

Biden will be inaugurated Wednesday, when protesters also may be in Lansing.

"I assure you that we take our responsibility for safeguarding the Capitol very seriously," Gasper said during a news conference. "Together with our law enforcement partners, we are prepared for the worst, but we remain hopeful that those who choose to demonstrate at our Capitol do so peacefully, without violence or destruction of property."

Increased state police staffing at the Statehouse will last through at least mid-February, he said. Ground-level windows at a nearby state building that houses the governor's office were boarded up. It was believed to the first time such fencing has been positioned around the Capitol in decades.

Maj. Gen. Paul Rogers, adjutant general of the Michigan Army and Air National Guard, said Whitmer – at the request of local officials – had activated troops to help protect people, facilities and key infrastructure. He declined to say how many will be involved but said the response is "significant." The governor also deployed several hundred Guard members to Washington, D.C., to help with security and traffic control related to the inauguration.

See **SECURITY**, page A2

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Low 27

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State tax revenues are $2.1B above earlier projections

LANSING (AP) — Projected tax revenues in Michigan's two major accounts will be $2.1 billion higher than previously anticipated over two years, driven by increased federal unemployment benefits and consumers' online purchases in the coronavirus pandemic.

Economists in the Legislature and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's administration agreed Friday to economic and fiscal forecasts.

For the current budget year, revenues in the general and school funds are projected to total $24.3 billion – down $505 million, or 2 percent, from last year but $1.2 billion above an August estimate. The combined revenues for the 2021-22 fiscal year are $25.3 billion, up $1 billion, or 4.3 percent, from this year. It is $875 million higher than a prior projection, which would nearly wipe clear a potential $1 billion shortfall that had been suggested months ago.

One legislative fiscal agency projected the state also may have a $3.7 billion surplus from last fiscal year, though the books are not yet closed.

The Democratic governor will use the rosier-than-anticipated numbers to craft her third annual spending plan, which will be delivered to the Republican-controlled Legislature in February.

"The revenue shortfall this year in not nearly as severe as we had feared," said state Treasurer Rachael Eubanks, also noting that $900 billion in federal COVID-19 relief was enacted weeks ago. "Our economy is still in need of recovery and assistance from the federal government."

President-elect Joe Biden on Thursday unveiled a $1.9 trillion coronavirus plan.

State economists pointed to stronger-than-expected consumer spending and income tax withholdings, due to more generous jobless benefits and an expanded eligibility pool. The latest federal aid includes an extra $300 weekly unemployment benefit, a $600 stimulus check, $90 million in pandemic-response funds and $1.6 billion for education.

SECURITY

From page A1

Several roads in Lansing will be closed Sunday to facilitate entry and exit downtown, where the Capitol and many government buildings are located.

Lansing Police Chief Daryl Green said he had reassured concerned business owners and religious leaders that the city is prepared. He encouraged people without a specific reason to be downtown to stay home.

"We believe firmly in your expression of your First Amendment rights and your Second Amendment rights," he said of potential demonstrators, who may be armed. "We just ask that do it safely and that you respect our city and respect our state Capitol."

At least one paramilitary group told a TV station it planned to demonstrate at the Capitol on Sunday but later appeared to back away, telling Lansing City Pulse it was concerned that far-right Proud Boys intend to go to "cause maximum chaos." The Associated Press could not reach the Southeast Michigan Volunteer Militia.

LOTTERIES

Friday drawings

Michigan

Poker Lotto
KC-3C-5C-8C-4D
Midday Daily 3
6-8-0
Midday Daily 4
5-8-8-3
Daily 3
2-4-6
Daily 4
4-1-8-7
Fantasy 5
03-13-18-21-31
Estimated jackpot
$133,000
Keno
01-02-05-09-19-26-29-34-36-37-39-40-46-50-55-62-65-69-70-74-78-80
Mega Millions jackpot
$750 million

Powerball jackpot
$640 million

Thursday drawings

Indiana

Cash 5
16-31-35-37-41
Estimated jackpot
$248,000
Cash4Life
01-10-17-32-39, Cash Ball: 1
Quick Draw Midday
05-11-12-17-20-24-25-34-35-50-51-54-61-62-63-64-69-74-75-77, BE: 62
Daily Three-Midday
9-3-9, SB: 2
Daily Three-Evening
0-6-4, SB: 8
Daily Four-Midday
9-6-1-6, SB: 2
Daily Four-Evening
7-4-6-3, SB: 8
Quick Draw Evening
04-08-10-11-27-29-30-40-52-55-56-57-60-65-67-72-74-76-77-79, BE: 29

Illinois

Lotto
05-13-26-38-43-48, Extra Shot: 10
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
22-25-30-31-35
Estimated jackpot
$600,000
Pick Three-Midday
9-2-7, Fireball: 2
Pick Three-Evening
3-3-9, Fireball: 3
Pick Four-Midday
2-0-6-7, Fireball: 2
Pick Four-Evening
4-7-3-7, Fireball: 6
Lucky Day Lotto
07-15-26-33-43

– The Associated Press

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PAROLE

From page A1

Dixon fled the scene on foot, but was found hiding in the basement of a home he had broken into about a quarter mile away from where McAllister had been shot.

"There was fresh, fallen snow. That's how he was tracked," Koch said.

Efforts were made to revive McAllister. He was taken to South Haven Community Hospital, where he died in surgery at 4:05 a.m. the same morning.

A jury found Dixon guilty of second-degree murder in July 1976, and Allegan County Circuit Court Judge George Corsiglia, now retired, sentenced him to life in prison.

Originally from Detroit, how Dixon ended up in South Haven is quite a story.

According to court documents, in October 1971 Dixon hijacked an Eastern Airlines Boeing 727 plane that was scheduled to leave from Detroit Metropolitan Airport. Armed with a revolver, he seized a flight attendant assisting passengers. He then ordered the pilot to fly the plane to Cuba, where he was left. He remained in Cuba for several years before returning to the United States undetected.

A month prior to the hijacking incident, Dixon had been released from Jackson State Prison, where he was was serving a 3-5-year term for armed robbery in St. Clair.

Back in the U.S. and living near South Haven, residents there apparently had no idea of Dixon's past. Those who came in brief contact with him said he was quiet and kept to himself.

Herald-Palladium file photo

Police officers are shown in attendance at the funeral of South Haven Police Officer Michael McAllister on Jan. 15, 1976. The funeral took place at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church in Benton Harbor and McAllister was laid to rest at Crystal Springs Cemetery. Several hundred police officers from throughout Southwest Michigan and the Chicago area attended the funeral to honor McCallister.

Around the Christmas holidays at the tail end of 1975, people who were interviewed by police following the shooting said they had seen Dixon go in and out of a cottage off of 74th Street. He also was observed at several bars in town. However, it is not clear from published news articles written at the time why Dixon was in South Haven to begin with.

One thing is known – he was trying to avoid getting caught for the hijacking, according to Koch.

"He knew he was wanted by federal authorities for air piracy and kidnapping," Koch said. "In his own statement he indicated he was hiding out there (at the cottage)."

Once police arrested Dixon they contacted federal authorities. After his trial for the death of McAllister, Dixon faced federal charges for air piracy and kidnapping. A jury found him guilty on both counts in December 1976. He was sentenced to two 20-year terms to run consecutively with the life sentence term for McAllister's death.

Dixon, now 80 according to Michigan Department of Corrections records, has served 45 years in prison. He is now lodged at the Lakeland Correctional Facility in Coldwater. Even though he was originally sentenced to life in prison, amendments made to Michigan's criminal sentencing laws in 1992 now make him eligible for parole.

In a nutshell, the revisions to the law state that a prisoner who has served 10 years of their sentence is eligible for a parole hearing if the crime was committed prior to Oct. 1, 1992.

Dixon's parole hearing is scheduled for Feb. 9, to be conducted via Zoom.

While gathering information for her report opposing Dixon's release, Koch is also trying to notify McAllister's family members so they can be aware of the upcoming hearing and possibly respond.

It hasn't been easy.

"We're still trying to locate families," said Koch, who has been assisted by South Haven Police Department and Michigan State Police in trying to track down McAllister's loved ones.

At the time of his murder, McAllister was married and had five children. The family lived in Coloma. He had served in the Korean War and afterwards was a deputy for the Cook County Sheriff's Department in Chicago before coming to Michigan in 1971 to work for the Covert Township Police Department. He then worked for the South Haven Police Department for five years before the deadly encounter with Dixon.

Even though Dixon is now 80 and may not be considered a risk, Koch thinks he should remain in prison, because then Judge Corsiglia sentenced Dixon to life in prison.

"I come from a family of law enforcement," she said. "He (Dixon) deprived an officer of the right to grow old. I feel it is my duty to respect his life by objecting to this parole."

PAREDES

From page A1

parole for a juvenile is unconstitutional because a person's brain is not fully developed until they are in their mid-20s, and that judges should have discretion when sentencing juvenile murderers.

In 2016, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the that Miller decision is retroactive, so now the life without parole sentences previously handed to "juvenile lifers" are being reviewed.

Prosecutors could file motions seeking to uphold the original sentence of life without parole, and Sepic did so in Paredes' case and several other local cases. Defense lawyers in the juvenile-lifer cases fight for their clients to be re-sentenced.

Paredes earlier had a Miller hearing before LaSata. Sepic, who has since retired, was recently sworn in as an assistant prosecutor so he could return to finish the Paredes case, which he originally prosecuted.

If, following a Miller hearing, a judge decides to re-sentence a juvenile killer, the minimum sentence must be between 25 and 40 years, with a maximum of 60 years. Paredes has served 31 years.

There are several factors a judge must consider in a Miller hearing. Besides the facts of the case and the inmate's involvement, the court must consider the person's history as a youth, including family history, prior criminal involvement, mental health issues, school history and general relative maturity of the inmate as a youth. Conduct in prison since the original sentencing is also considered.

Another factor is whether a defendant admits responsibility for the crime, plus showing that he or she is capable of change and rehabilitation. Paredes, however, has stuck to his claim that he is innocent and that he was set up by accomplices in the crime.

The Supreme Court has said that a life without parole sentence for juveniles should only be given to "the rare individual who is irreparably corrupt and incapable of change."

Friedman argued that Paredes has changed and that he will be no threat to society if released.

"What does he (Paredes) have to change from if he claims he's not a murderer?" Sepic asked the court. "Change from what? It's the desire to kill that has to change."

In their arguments on Friday, both lawyers outlined the factors that are considered in the Miller hearings, and how they see them applied to Paredes.

Sepic said Paredes had a good home environment and that his claims that he'd been exposed to violence are "complete lies."

"You couldn't ask for a better home environment. There were no mental or emotional disturbances that contributed to this. No drugs. No alcohol," Sepic said.

He noted that Paredes excelled academically as a sophomore at Lakeshore High School, was involved in a number of extra-curricular activities, held jobs while in high school and appeared to have been mature beyond his years.

Sepic said that without an acknowledgement of guilt and remorse from Paredes, "We don't know why he killed other than being a sociopath or psychopath, and we can't cure that. Rehabilitation is curing what caused you to kill."

Friedman said that while his client may have been intellectually gifted, his brain was not fully developed and, at 15, he was following the lead of others who had provided the gun and then drove Paredes away from the store the night of the killing.

"His intelligence is not a factor against him, and it's not a disqualifier (for a new sentence)," Friedman told the court.

He said that while Paredes' home environment was "not the worst, that doesn't mean it was good."

Paredes got married and fathered a child while in prison.

"A stable family increases the chances of success. He's had a 10-year marriage, and his family all stand behind him," Friedman said.

He said that while in prison, Paredes has sought out all the mental health care he could, has an excellent job performance record, has been socially responsible and receptive to treatment, and has the lowest security threat level possible. He said Paredes is the "poster child" for rehabilitation.

"His track record of doing good things goes back 20 years. It's not just now to get released," Friedman said. "He's demonstrated that he has a habit of doing good. People change. People can change."

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hp LOCAL & STATE

Reaching out in a time of crisis

Berrien health officials work with community leaders to get vaccine to people of color

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Community leaders and health officials have been collaborating for months now on how to make the COVID-19 vaccine accessible to people in Berrien County.

On Friday, these leaders and officials took to Facebook Live to share some of their plans, and more specifically how they are building confidence in the vaccine in Black, Hispanic/Latino and other underrepresented communities.

"We all know people of color have taken on a disproportionate burden of COVID-19 cases, deaths and hospitalizations," Dr. Lisa Lowery, adolescent medicine specialist at Spectrum Health, said during the event. "As a Black woman and a physician, the vaccine represents a blessing and a path back to normalcy, also saving lives."

Of all the more than 10,000 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Berrien County, nearly 18 percent have been Black people, according to the county's COVID-19 data dashboard. Black people make up 14 percent of the county's population.

Dr. Talawanda Bragg, internal medicine hospitalist and program director at Spectrum Health, said health disparities for these communities are not new.

"But what is new is that the world is watching and everyone is waking up to it," she said. "This is an opportunity for the health care establishment to right some wrongs."

Maurice Burton, a retired Michigan State trooper, has been working to educate people in the Benton Harbor community about the vaccine. He said Black people historically distrust the medical system because they were used as guinea pigs for new medical procedures and vaccines.

Lynn Todman, vice president of health equity at Spectrum Health Lakeland, said that's what the hospital system is working to address.

Todman said before she got the vaccine, she struggled.

"My brain said it was the right thing to do because I understand enough of the science behind it, but in my heart, I was like, 'Are you going to be OK as an African American person in a health system,'" she said.

Todman said outside of some arm soreness at the site of injection, it was fine.

That's why Spectrum Health Lakeland is working with folks like Trooper Burton to get the word out to the community, determine what places would be good to set up community clinics, and what are the best communication methods to reach these communities.

Burton said there has been hesitancy because people don't know the logistics, like how they're going to get transportation to a vaccination clinic, how long the process will take, or how they're going to be able to go back for their second dose.

"Also, it's cold and some of the elderly folks won't go out when it's cold," he said. "So maybe we can get some nurses to go in-home to give the shot."

Todman said these community partners have been so important with the hospital system's vaccination strategy of meeting people where they are.

"We talk a lot about the trust. People trusting the health care system, but we have to become trustworthy," Todman said.

Lowery said health officials are welcoming anyone with ideas on how to reach the communities of color in Southwest Michigan.

Bragg said we have to rally as a community to help get everyone vaccinated.

"It's about all of us working together to make sure everyone is reached positively by this medical advancement," she said.

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SNOW SQUALL

Don Campbell / HP staff

A car heads down Red Arrow Highway near Bridgman on Friday afternoon as a brief snow squall hit the area, but then quickly moved on.

A fruitful life

Coloma's Paul Friday honored for lifelong peach innovations

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

FRIDAY

COLOMA — Life's a peach.

Or in Paul Friday's case, a series of peaches that have culminated in national recognition.

The Coloma farmer was recently recognized for his years of dedicated work in the fruit industry by the Michigan State Horticultural Society. Friday received the 2020 Distinguished Service Award last month during the virtual Great Lakes Expo as the fruit industry award winner.

"I'm pleased to receive the award for my life's work. My most important takeaway is all of the fine people, growers and researchers I've met across the country," Friday said. "The lasting relationships have meant more than anything else."

The MSHS gives a yearly award to one fruit grower and one fruit industry person in the state.

Friday, 79, was raised on a Southwest Michigan fruit farm growing cherries, apples and peaches. But it was the peaches he preferred.

He took that love of fruit and turned it into a lifetime of records, awards and contributions to the peach industry.

When Friday started breeding peaches, Michigan was only known for two main varieties: Red Haven and Red Skin.

He recognized there was an opportunity to expand the industry, so he got to work creataing new peach varieties.

Due to this effort, Friday holds 34 patents and one Guinness Book of World Records entry for heaviest peach. One of his varieties tended to yield large peaches, and one day he noticed an exceptionally large one. So he called Guinness and secured the record.

"Most peach varieties only last for about 10 days. So you need a lot of varieties to make a season longer," Friday said. "It's one of the reasons I extended the peach harvest by a month over the years."

In addition to their large size, Friday's Flamin' Fury peaches earned accolades for their color, firm sweet fruit, and high yields.

Friday has not kept his knowledge a secret, though.

A graduate of Coloma High School and Michigan State University, Friday has been a farm market and agriculture tourism speaker all over the country for more than 45 years.

Friday has served on the Michigan Peach Sponsors and the National Peach Council. In fact, the National Peach Council even awarded him their Distinguished Service Award in 2010.

He has spoken to farm market audiences locally at the Great Lakes Expo, where he had a trade show booth for decades. Friday has also spoken nationally, from Idaho and Colorado to Pennsylvania and Alabama.

He's even taken his knowledge to international audiences, speaking in Canada and Mexico.

Friday said it was an easy decision to dedicate his life to improving the Michigan peach industry.

"I've just always had an affinity for peaches," he said. "They seemed more interesting to me than apples or cherries."

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IN BRIEF

Ex-Snyder aide quits university board after Flint charges

YPSILANTI (AP) — Richard Baird, one of nine former officials charged in the Flint water crisis, resigned from the Eastern Michigan University Board of Regents on Friday.

Baird, 64, was a top aide to ex-Gov. Rick Snyder, who was arraigned on misdemeanor charges Thursday. In a letter to the board's chair, Baird said his decision was very difficult but in the best interests of the university.

He said he will be exonerated of the "specious" felony charges – perjury, misconduct in office, obstruction of justice and extortion – but the legal proceedings will "take quite a long while."

Snyder named Baird to the board in October 2018, for a term that began in 2019 and was to go through 2026. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer will appoint a replacement.

The charges have escalated a debate over whether charged state and local officials crossed a line between incompetence and illegality.

COVID-19 numbers hit plateau in Berrien County

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

After a slight rise in COVID-19 cases last week, Berrien County saw a plateau this week.

The county has recorded 344 new cases since last Friday. That's compared to 389 cases last week, and 277 cases the week before.

During the same period, the county added 561 new recoveries.

Deaths decreased this week, with just three confirmed and two presumed being reported. That's down from 11 deaths last week and 13 deaths the week prior.

With the deaths and the recoveries, the county is at about 1,410 active cases. That's down from 1,630 last Friday and 2,094 the Friday before that.

In total, since the start of the pandemic, Berrien County has recorded 9,480 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 7,884 recoveries, 186 confirmed deaths, 17 probable deaths, and 745 presumed COVID-19 cases. That's an additional 31 presumed cases over last Friday.

COVID hospitalizations at Spectrum Health Lakeland averaged at 41 patients a day this week, with 46 being admitted as of Friday morning. That's right around the 44 patient average the hospital has had the last two weeks.

Berrien County's percent positivity rate remains around 8-10 percent, while Cass and Van Buren County's are more between 12 and 14 percent.

Van Buren/Cass

New cases have also plateaued in Van Buren and Cass counties.

Cass County recorded 146 new COVID-19 cases this week and three new deaths. Van Buren County recorded 150 new cases and five new deaths.

In total, since the start of the pandemic, Cass County has recorded 3,224 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 51 deaths.

Van Buren County has recorded 4,257 cases and 80 deaths.

Vaccine update

The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department (VBCDHD) noted in a COVID-19 newsletter Friday that they are still working to vaccinate people in Phase 1A and intend to open up opportunities as they receive more supply of the vaccine.

VBCDHD officials noted the health department is receiving more than 500 calls a day.

"Our team is working diligently to get back to everyone and recruiting additional support, but it may take 7 or more days to receive a return phone call or not at all. The 'I want a COVID-19 Vaccine!' sign-up list is the most direct and timely way to receive status updates from us for your specific priority group," it wrote in the newsletter update.

The signup list is available at https://vbcassdhd.org/covid-19-vaccine.

The VBCDHD is also encouraging people to keep an eye on information from their health care provider and pharmacy for when waitlists through those entities might be open.

As of Wednesday, about 562 doses of vaccine had been administered in Cass County, and 2,561 doses had been administered in Van Buren County, according to the state's COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard.

Berrien County has given out about 4,393 doses of vaccine, with about 335 of those being a second dose.

Local health officials said Friday that the state's vaccine dashboard is a few days behind in its reporting, but gives a rough picture of local vaccination efforts.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

Blossomtime clears way for community pageants

Annual May festival remains in doubt

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Many things have changed during the past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the community pageants that will lead up to the 2021 Blossomtime Pageant are no exception.

Blossomtime President Anna Abdelnour said the deadline to hold the community pageants has been extended to May. So far, she said the Miss Baroda Scholarship Pageant is the only one that has set a tentative date of March 13, though others are in the works.

People interested in going out for their local community pageant are asked to contact the community chairperson. To find out who that person is, email the Blossomtime office at office@blossomtimefestival.org.

"We want to make sure that parents and kids know to get in touch with their communities so their communities know there are kids interested in this," she said.

She said information will also be posted on the Blossomtime Festival Inc. Facebook page as it becomes available, including when the Blossomtime Pageant will be held.

"We want to wait and see how the community pageants go," she said. "Hopefully, the pandemic will die down soon."

During a normal year, the community pageants take place Oct. 1 through Jan. 31, with the annual Blossomtime Pageant held in March.

That didn't happen last year, of course. The Blossomtime Pageant was called off just days before the scheduled event.

Abdelnour said they initially were waiting for the pandemic to die down so the pageant could be held indoors. But by late summer, indoor gatherings were still limited to 10 people, so the pageant was held outdoors at the Harbor Shores Golf Club event tent.

"We wanted to give the kids some of the same opportunities they would have during a normal year," she said.

The winners of the Blossomtime Pageant and their courts are usually featured during the annual Blossomtime Grand Floral Parade the first weekend in May.

That also didn't happen last year, and it remains unknown whether the parade will happen this year.

If the parade happens, Abdelnour said the 2020 winners and their courts will be featured.

Abdelnour said the safety of the youth and the community volunteers is the biggest concern of the Blossomtime Festival Board of Directors. She said that all pageants will comply with the Centers for Disease Control guidelines to slow the spread of the virus.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

OBITUARIES

James Larry Clupper

Jan. 22, 1943 – Dec. 13, 2020

James Larry Clupper, 78, passed away Sunday morning, Dec. 13, 2020, at his residence following a brief illness.

He was born on Jan. 22, 1943, in Benton Harbor, the son of James Lester and Arindena (Johnson) Clupper.

He graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1961 and served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War Era, being stationed at Lowry Airforce Base, Denver, and was honorably discharged in 1970.

James married Linda (Crehan) Clupper on Dec. 19, 1997.

He worked in supervision, management and administration at Ball Corporation (i.e., Alltrista, Jarden) for 26 years prior to his retirement from there in 2002. He went on to complete a period of employment in the maintenance department of Chevrolet Muncie for two years.

Besides his wife of 23 years, Linda, he is survived by three sons: Daniel C. (Courtney) Clupper of Florida, Adam Clupper of Avon, and Martin (Tina) Clanin of Yorktown; two daughters: Lari Whitsel of Muncie and Beth (Doug) Erickson of Killeen, Texas; brother, Charles "Chuck" (Carol) Clupper of Reno; 10 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; one niece; and one nephew.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and son-in-law, Dean Whitesel in 2018.

The family has chosen cremation, with a memorial service to honor his life at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 22, at Towne Acres Church of Christ, 2411 E. Riggin Road, Muncie, Ind.

To express condolences to the family, visitation will be held at the church from 4 p.m. until the time of the service. Military honors will be rendered by the Delaware County Honor Guard.

Parson Mortuary Cremation Center is entrusted with these arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family in care of www.parsonmortuary.com.

Joann Gould

Feb. 13, 1939 – Jan. 10, 2021

Joann Helen Gould, 81, of Benton Harbor passed away Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Arrangements have been entrusted to Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph.

Joann was born on Feb. 13, 1939, in Manila, Ark., to the late Steven and Maggie Crossley.

On July 28, 1967, in Benton Harbor she married William Gould.

Joann worked at Hughes Plastics in St. Joseph for 40 years. She was an avid bowler for many years in various leagues throughout the Twin City area.

Joann is survived by her husband, William; two children: Joe (Todd) Kebschull, and Max Kebschull, both of Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.; stepchildren: Charles (Wendy) Gould of McAllister, Okla., and Diane (Charles) Price of Morgantown, W.Va.; five grandchildren; several step-grandchildren; many great-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Barbara (James) Moshier of Cocoa Beach, Fla; as well as many nephews and nieces.

She is preceded in death by a son, Gregory Crossley; a stepson, Mark Gould; and a sister, Stevie Kuiper.

A celebration of life service will be at 1 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 19, at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, with the Rev. Marcella Jean O'Connell officiating. Visitation with the family precedes the service from noon-1 p.m., at the funeral home. Burial follows the service at Crystal Springs Cemetery in Benton Harbor.

Friends wishing to leave the family a message of condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Death notices

Henry Beaty Jr., 68, formerly of Benton Harbor died Dec. 28, 2020. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Karen Bock, 61, of Stevensville died Jan. 13, 2021. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Patricia Ann Chappell-Gerencser, 80, of Hartford died Jan. 8, 2021. Calvin-Leonard Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

James Larry Clupper, 78, formerly of Benton Harbor, died Dec. 13, 2020. Parsons Mortuary, Muncie, Ind.

Joel Alexander Dudley, 36, of Portage, Mich., died Jan. 14, 2021, at home. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Joann Gould, 81, of Benton Harbor died Jan. 10, 2021. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Doris Eileen Hart, 93, of St. Joseph died Jan. 14, 2021. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Sandra Landis, 78, of St. Joseph died Jan. 14, 2021, at home. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Veryl G. Kridler, 82, of Bloomingdale died Jan. 15, 2021. Bloomingdale Chapel, D.L. Miller Funeral Home, Bloomingdale, 521-3121.

Kent Malmstrom, 63, of Niles died Jan. 14, 2021, at Lakeland Hospital, Niles. Brown Funeral Home, Niles, 683-1155.

Chester Nitz, 96, of Baroda died Jan. 5, 2021. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Alma Paul, nee Weckwerth, 93, formerly of Bainbridge Township, a current resident of Palatine, Ill., died Jan. 14, 2021. Hutchins Funeral Home, Watervliet, 463-3811.

James Herbert Roth, 86, of Sawyer died Jan. 11, 2021. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Terry Lee Simons, 65, of Keeler Township died Jan. 13, 2021. Calvin-Leonard Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

Robert Isom Slappy, 68, died Dec. 31, 2020. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Helen Jean Thompson, 91, of Hagar Township died Jan. 10, 2021, at Pine Ridge Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Stevensville. Davidson Chapel of Florin Funeral Service, Benton Harbor, 926-7222.

Sharon F. Zordan, 73, of Bangor died Jan. 13, 2021, at home. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Coloma, 468-6000.

Veryl G. Kridler

July 12, 1938 – Jan. 15, 2021

Veryl G. "Pee Wee" Kridler, 82, of Bloomingdale, passed away Friday, Jan. 15, 2021, at his home, surrounded by his children.

Pee Wee was born July 12, 1938, in Allegan, the son of the late Gordon and Nina Kridler and lived his entire life in the Bloomingdale area. Pee Wee was a long-time farmer and raised Clydesdales. He was a good friend and neighbor to many and helped the local Amish community as their chauffeur.

Pee Wee was a dog lover and cherished time spent with his family. Surviving are his four children: Ken (Diana), Kris Wagner, Kirk and Kip; grandchildren: Kim (Matt), Karl (Kellie), Mike (Allison), Michelle and Megan; great-grandchildren: Synthea, Emma, Thomas, and Allie; siblings: Virginia "Ginny" Burleson and Verlen "Buzz" (Kathy) Kridler; a niece; and several nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, JoAnn; his parents; a son-in-law, Skeeter Wagner; and a brother-in-law, Harold Burleson.

Following his wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial service is being planned for a later date. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to Kindred Hospice. Arrangements entrusted to the Bloomingdale Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com.

James Herbert Roth

Aug. 24, 1934 – Jan. 14, 2021

James Herbert Roth, 86, of Sawyer passed away Monday, Jan. 11, 2021, at his home.

A graveside service will be at 10 a.m., Monday, Jan. 18, at Graceland Cemetery, Bridgman.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Alzheimer's Association, Michigan Great Lakes Chapter, 200 Turwill Lane, Suite 6, Kalamazoo, MI 49006. Online condolences accepted at www.PikeFH.com.

James was born on Aug. 24, 1934, in Stevensville, the son of the late Herbert and Elizabeth (Schuler) Roth.

On June 16, 1956, he married Opal Yvonne Haskins and she preceded him in death, on Aug. 13, 2006.

James was a U.S. Army veteran and served in the Air Force Reserves. He worked at Wollin Products and retired in 1999. James enjoyed working on motors and anything automotive.

Survivors include his sons: Al (Marilee) Roth, and Jeff Roth; grandchildren: Jenna (David) Newsome, Lisa Roth, Robert Roth, Rebecca Roth and Michael Roth; great-granddaughter, Savannah Maycroft; his sister, Darlene Damaske; and special friend, Donna Sackett.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Pike Funeral and Cremation Services, Boyd Chapel, 9191 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman.

Doris Eileen Hart

Nov. 5, 1927 – Jan. 14, 2021

Doris Eileen Hart (née Burroughs), 93, of St. Joseph passed away Thursday, Jan. 14, at her home. A celebration of life will be at a later date.

Memorial donations can be made to the Humane Society – Southwestern Michigan Yeager Family Pet Shelter, or the charity of your choice. Those wishing to share a memory of Doris online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Doris was born on Nov. 5, 1927, in Clyde, Ohio, to Jesse E. and Grace N. (Sultz) Burroughs, as one of nine siblings. After graduating from Clyde High School in 1945, she enrolled in civil service training to work for Air Technical Service Command to aid with the war effort. She and her sisters also formed their own band called the Burroughs Family Orchestra and performed throughout town. When World War II ended, she became a payroll clerk at Whirlpool in Clyde, where she met Gene Hart. The two married in 1954. They had two children and were together until his death in 2014.

In 1963 the family moved to Baroda. She worked for many years as a secretary of Baroda Elementary School and was a member of the Baroda Women's Civic League. She later returned to work at Whirlpool in Benton Harbor, and in 1985 she and Gene moved to a house overlooking the lake in St. Joseph, where they were able to watch the gorgeous sunsets every night. In 1992 Doris retired to become a full-time grandma to two granddaughters, who were the joy of her life.

Doris loved gardening in her hillside garden, playing cards, music, reading and baking. She made wonderful pies, but her family joked that they came with a disclaimer, because she always had some story about why that particular dessert didn't look perfect. She made friends everywhere she went, and she constantly made her loved ones laugh with her goofy sense of humor. She worked hard and never slowed down, even insisting into her 80s that she mow her own lawn. She wrote in her diary every day, and in her later years she used these diaries to write her life story.

She is survived by her son, Daniel (Cindy) Hart of Benton Harbor; and daughter, Cathy (Craig Steenbergh) Hart of Saugatuck; granddaughters: Alana Hart and Erin Hart, both of Chicago; brother, Harry Burroughs of Clyde; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; and seven siblings.

Chester Leland Nitz

Dec. 7, 1924 – Jan. 5, 2021

Chester "Chet" Leland Nitz, 96, of Baroda passed away Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville.

Private family services were held at Pike Funeral and Cremation Services, Boyd Chapel, 9191 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman. Burial was in Ruggles Cemetery, Baroda.

Memorials may be made to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9193 Cleveland Ave., Baroda, MI 49101. Online condolences at www.PikeFH.com.

Chet was born on Dec. 7, 1924, in Baroda, the son of the late Herman and Hazel (Sorget) Nitz.

On Sept. 29, 1984, he married Valeria Alice Belanger.

Chet served in the U.S. Navy and was a member of Baroda American Legion Post 345. He was employed at Whirlpool for over 30 years. Chet enjoyed fishing and hunting. He was a faithful member of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Chester is survived his wife, Valeria; children: Monty Nitz, Vickie Nitz, Christine (Robert) Getz, Jonathan Belanger, James (Julie) Belanger and Timothy (Julie) Belanger; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a expected great-great-grandchild in June; siblings: Elaine Lochner, Kenneth (Ginger) Nitz, and Larry (Ginny) Nitz; and sister-in-law, Marge Nitz.

Chester was also preceded in death by his brother, Harold Nitz.

Patricia Ann Chappell-Gerencser

April 17, 1940 – Jan. 8, 2021

Patricia Ann Chappell-Gerencser, 80, of Hartford passed away Friday, Jan. 8, 2021, at Pine Ridge Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Stevensville.

Pat, as she was known by most everyone, was born in Bangor on April 17, 1940, the daughter of Allen and Marian (Smith) Prouty. She graduated from Hartford High School in the class of 1957. She was formerly employed as a secretary in the Hartford Public School System.

Her most special times were spent with family and friends, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Pat loved to cook and was always cooking for family and friends. She was never happier than surrounded by her friends and family.

Pat leaves behind to cherish her memory her two children: Pam (Camilo) Lucero and Mike (Marissa) Chappell, both of Hartford; her seven grandchildren: Kirsten (Kyle) Hastings, Kyle (Kelsey) Wright, Jessica Lucero, James Lucero, Christopher (Shana) Chappell, Matthew Chappell, and Paul Chappell. She is also survived by seven great-grandchildren, with another on the way; a sister; Marian Jensen of Hartford; and many other family members and friends.

Pat was preceded in death by her first husband, Jim Chappell; her second husband, Bill Gerencser; her parents; and a brother, Allen Prouty.

As per Pat's wishes, cremation has taken place. Due to the restrictions in place, a memorial service to honor Pat's life will be held at a later date.

The family has asked that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hartford Public School Foundation for Quality Education.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Calvin Funeral Home in Hartford. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

Terry Lee Simons

Feb. 23, 1955 – Jan. 13, 2021

Terry Lee Simons, 65, of Keeler Township passed away Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2021, at Rose Arbor Hospice Center, Kalamazoo.

Terry was born Feb. 23, 1955, in Kalamazoo, the son of Frank and Iva (Flett) Simons, both of whom precede him in passing. He is also preceded in passing by four brothers: Donald Simons, Richard Simons, Frank "Sonny" Simons and Robert Simons; three sisters: Rita Reaume, Brenda Keckler and Dorothy Cole; and a stepsister, Jean Ann Flett.

Terry was heavily involved in The Church, Keeler, doing everything he could to serve his Lord. He loved collecting records and old model motorcycles.

Terry is survived by four brothers: Paul Simons, Raymond Simons, Thomas Simons and Charles Simons; nephews: Jacob Martin, Paul Hughes, Brian Hughes, Chad (Kelly) Nuyen and Owen Nuyen; nieces: Paula Simons, Emma Nuyen, Janet Simons, Dana Jones and Erin Burnett; and many other family members and friends.

A service to honor Terry's memory will commence at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, at The Church, Keeler, with Pastor Jesse Maya officiating. Burial will follow in Keeler Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Terry's name may be made to the church. The family has entrusted the Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

Alma Paul

Alma "Cecile" Paul, nee Weckwerth, 93, formerly of Bainbridge Township, a current resident of Palatine, Ill., for 56 years, passed away Jan. 14, 2021.

Cecile grew up on her family fruit farm in Bainbridge Township, Mich. In 1945 she was accepted into the United States Nurse Corps and trained at Wayne State University. Cecile retired as a registered nurse after 40 years of service.

Beloved wife of David Paul, the late Valentine Borski, and the late Lawrence Walker. Loving mother of Ronald B. Walker, Richard W. (Cathy) Walker, Randal A. (Stephanie) Walker and the late Robert L. Walker. Devoted grandmother of Kristine McLean, Keith and Angela Walker, Rachael (Michael) Walker-Sara, Kyle Walker and Anna Walker. Great-grandmother of Benjamin McLean. Dear sister of Elsie Rantz, and the late Carl Weckwerth, Frieda Filter, and Albert Weckwerth.

Services will be celebrated at noon Wednesday, Jan. 20, with visitation prior starting at 11 a.m., at Hutchins Funeral Home in Watervliet. Burial will follow in St. Paul's Cemetery in Bainbridge Township.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Buddy Foundation Animal Shelter, 65 W. Seegers Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, www.thebuddyfoundation.org.

Henry Beaty Jr.

Aug. 5, 1952 – Dec. 28, 2020

Henry Beaty Jr., 68, formerly of Benton Harbor departed this life Dec. 28, 2020, in Columbia S.C.

A visitation will be from 10 a.m. to noon, on Jan. 16, at the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, Benton Harbor.

Those wishing to sign the guest book online may do so at www.robbinsbrothersfh.com.

Henry was born to the union of Henry Sr., and Hortence Beaty on Aug. 5, 1952, in Benton Harbor.

Henry leaves precious memories with his siblings: Tommy (Roberta) Dorsey, Alex (Rachel) Williams, Richard Phillips, Demetrius (Denesha) Travis, Dovie Cannon, Annetta Banda, Carolyn Travis, Rita (Vernell) Broadway, Michelle Taylor.

Henry is preceded in death by his parents: Henry Beaty Sr., and Hortence Marie Nalls; stepmom, Virginia Lee Beaty; one sister, Tremell Gurnsey; and one brother, Robert Travis.

See more obituaries on Page A5

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OBITUARIES

Karen Bock

Sept. 18, 1959 - Jan. 13, 2021

Karen Bock, 61, of Stevensville passed away Jan. 13, 2021, at her home.

Karen Kay (Jaeger) Bock was born on Sept. 18, 1959, in Cradon, Wis. A graduate of St. Joseph High School class of 1977.

She married her high school sweetheart, Franz Bock, in 1979. Karen was a loving and loyal wife for 41 years and Frank was so thankful for her love, support, and desire to discover the world together.

Karen loved to be outdoors and enjoy God's creation by hiking, camping, walking, and bird watching. She was her happiest in nature and developed that love in her children and grandchildren. Karen was a sweet and generous mother to Austin and Jennifer and devoted her time and energy to their sports and academics, even into their college years. Karen was a deep and thoughtful friend always being considerate of those around her and showed the love of Christ to everyone she met.

Karen's favorite job in the world was being a grandma to Grady (9), Parker (8), and Emery (5). She enjoyed teaching them new things, exploring the world with them, and watching movies together. Karen loved them with her whole heart and was so proud to be a grandma. Her grandchildren were the light of her life and will surely miss her.

Karen is survived by her husband of 41 years, Frank; her daughter, Jennifer (Blake) Ryan; her son, Austin (Kelsey) Bock; her parents: Harry and Patricia Jaeger; her siblings: Phillip Jaeger and his children, Paul (Deb) Jaeger; Char (Phillip) Baham and daughter; Bud (Laurie) Jaeger and children Raegon and Mark and Laura Gilson and their children. She is also survived by her mother-in-law, Maria Bock; and her sisters-in-law: Anna Schramm and her children; and Paula (Frank) Polaskey and their children; her brother-in-law, Richard (Sandy) Bock and their children.

Karen is preceded in death by her mother, Marie (Wickman) Jaeger; and her father-in-law, Josef Bock.

A celebration of life will be at 4 p.m., Monday, Jan. 18, at The Chapel in St. Joseph, with Pastor Philip Bubar officiating.

Please follow all COVID-19 recommendations (masks required) as Karen would want all parties to be healthy and stay safe. Memorial contributions may be made to Sarett Nature Center. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com. A link will be available at the funeral home website to watch a livestream of the service.

For those who knew her and are mourning her sudden passing, we believe she would want you to know that when life is hard and things get tough, stop and look at the beauty God has placed around you.

Robert Isom Slappy

Nov. 28, 1952 - Dec, 31, 2020

Robert Isom Slappy, 68, departed this life on Dec. 31, 2020, at Spectrum Health United Hospital in Greenville, Mich.

A service celebrating his life will be Jan. 16, at Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor. Friends may gather at 10:30 a.m. and the service begins at 11 a.m. Those wishing to sign the guest book online may do so at www.robbinsbrothertsfh.com.

He was born on Nov. 28, 1952, to the union of Jewel Davis, and Judson La Grant Slappy Jr., in Chicago. Robert was raised in a loving home by foster parents: Jossie and James Randolph Williams.

Robert was baptized at an early age at Victory Baptist Church under the leadership of the Rev. Willaim Bryant of Chicago.

The family moved to Baldwin, Mich., where he became a member of Community Church of Woodland Park.

Robert was fun-loving and an upbeat person, always with a smile on his face. He loved his children and grandchildren very much. The gatherings and fun times we all had with him will never be forgotten

He leaves to cherish his memory his children: Janelle, and Robert Harris; sisters: Pamela (Richard) Waters, Manuella (Curtis) Austin, Louise Rouse, Constance (Thermon) Faison, and Edith Elaine Barragan; brothers: Judson La Grant (Thelma) Slappy, Mark Johnson, and Steven Randolph; grandchildren: Kenya Harris, Ke'Andre and Keon Harmon, Kyrell Wallace; and a host of nieces, and nephews; godchildren: Timothy, Kenneth, and Necomus Harris; and special friend, Mary Harris.

He is preceded in death by Jewel, and Judson Slappy, Jossie and James Williams, Judith, Ryan, Allen, Jaquelin and Mitchel.

BIRTHS

Lakeland Medical Center – St. Joseph

Benton Harbor – Boy, 9 pounds, 10 ounces, Sharday Carouthers, 4:06 a.m. Jan. 10.

Benton Harbor – Girl, 7 pounds, 7 ounces, Kelli and Matt Dardas, 9:09 p.m. Jan. 8.

Benton Harbor – Boy, 7 pounds 6 ounces, Makenna and Travis Clark, 4:08 p.m. Jan. 11.

Berrien Springs – Boy, 7 pounds, 7 ounces, Sharday and Walter Williams, 3:08 a.m. Jan. 5.

St. Joseph – Boy, 8 pounds, 4 ounces, Carrie Bohne and Ryan Warren, 8:43 a.m. Jan. 12.

St. Joseph – Boy, 7 pounds, 14 ounces, Emily and John Marshall, 6:55 a.m. Jan. 11.

Stevensville – Boy, 6 pounds, 8 ounces, Tamira and Carl Davis, 12:56 p.m. Jan. 8.

Stevensville – Girl, 6 pounds, 7 ounces, Carly and Jason Vadney, 5:37 p.m. Jan. 9.

Watervliet – Boy, 8 pounds, 11 ounces, Kendra Cubbage and Ruben Salas, 8:25 p.m. Jan. 11.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

ST. JOSEPH – The following marriage licenses have been issued by Berrien County Clerk Sharon Tyler:

Lisa Marie Brown and Phillip Bryant Knight both of Niles.

Denise Marie Huston of Mishawaka, Ind., and Michael Lenzy Swaim of Buchanan.

Berlisha Ja'Leen La'Shune Walton and Tyrece Sean Lamar both of Americus, Ga.

PROGRAM

From page A1

That's the case for Synthia Fitzgerald, 35, of Niles, who worked at an assisted living center during the pandemic as a licensed practical nurse and got many of her coworkers to apply for the program, as well.

"It's just a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that some people, unfortunately, don't get the chance to get," she said. "It's a way to better our life without having to go into the major debt that college can cause."

That's also the case for Judy Small of Benton Harbor. She has been working as a home health care aid, but the money just wasn't there for her to go to college and advance.

"I really wanted to do phlebotomy," she said. "I have a passion for learning how things work and the career fascinated me. I also love people and this is something we need."

Michelle Herman, a new SMC student who lives in Niles, is trying to become a registered nurse. She is currently a nursing assistant at a nursing and rehabilitation center in Niles.

"I knew I was going to go back to school – I was already thinking about it – and this program was an added thing that was presented and I went ahead and signed up for," she said. "Being back enrolled in school is wonderful because I know it's the right time in my life. It wasn't the time before. Now I'm happy that it's happening."

A bright spot

Avontae Young of Benton Harbor said the Futures for Frontliners program is going to give him less stress.

"Working through the pandemic was mentally draining, and at some points it didn't feel like it was worth it, but this really brought a light into things for me and for others," he said

Young is working on his associate degree in criminal justice at LMC and eventually wants to go to law school.

Harold Milliner, 23, of Berrien Springs is working toward a degree in the music therapy field.

For him, this program means having to work fewer jobs, and will help him stay on the honor roll, he said.

"When it came to the subject of college with my family, it was, 'We'll support you, but not financially,'" Milliner said. "This opened a door of possibilities for the future."

For Small and Keller, their ages did cause some concern as they prepared to return to school.

"Being 54, everything has changed with technology and stuff, but I'm feeling good. It feels promising and I'm real excited," Small said. "This scholarship made it possible for me to go into a career and not just another job."

Keller said she's terrified and excited at the same time about the upcoming semester.

"It's great that something good can come out of COVID, but also due to COVID it's a whole different format. Everything is on a computer, so it sort of tests your technological abilities," she said.

She worked in a bank during the pandemic and said even though she was good at it and she liked it, she didn't have a passion for it.

"So part of this is helping me look for something that I had a little bit more passion and interest in," Keller said.

Leone and Schaeffer said these students that they've helped admit to college have been so thankful for this opportunity.

"This is really allowing a lot of students that didn't think getting their associate's degree was possible, now able to make that a reality," Leone said. "We are incredibly pleased that the state has moved forward with this and is really allowing us to provide a great education to all these students."

They both noted that this is the precursor for the Michigan Reconnect program, which will begin taking applications in February. That program will provide grants and scholarships to any adult who is at least 25 and seeks a postsecondary education.

"This group is a great starting point for us, but we know the program is going to continue to grow and help our community overall, which is a beautiful thing," Schaeffer said.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

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DO YOU REMEMBER?

1996 – 25 years ago

Sam-I-am, Daisey Head Mayzie and other story book names came to life at Cass District Library through the Top Hat Players, a theatrical group evolving out of the Children's Theatre Workshop that was reincarnated last year at Southwestern Michigan College. Theater Director Andrea Granderson cultivated the troupe to entertain children. Eight students staged "Hats Off to Dr. Suess, It's a Celebration" before 500 students and 100 adults in Benton Harbor, Stevensville, Dowagiac and Decatur.

1986 – 35 years ago

Eau Claire residents are planning a celebration this summer to provide what my become an annual festival and to mark the 125th anniversary of the beginning of this village. The first Eau Claire area Cherry Festival will be July 4, according to Robert Rogien, Festival Committee Chairman. Rogien said the village has scheduled the festival in part because the community of Sodus has discontinued a similar one. Eau Claire's internationally known cherry pit spitting contest will be July 5.

1971 – 50 years ago

Fred Walker of American Legion Post 410 presented a sewing machine to a group that will put it to good work – a 4-H Club of which the Union Memorial AME Church is co-sponsor. Group members include Karen Davis, Lynn Matthews, Renee Thompson and Linda Thompson. The Thompson sisters are sewing instructors with the club that meets regularly at the church. Post 410 also donated two work benches to the club. Mrs. Virgil May is adviser for the 45-member group.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Saturday, Jan. 16, the 16th day of 2021. There are 349 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On Jan. 16, 2020, the impeachment trial of President Donald Trump opened in the Senate, with senators standing and swearing an oath of "impartial justice." Trump again denounced the proceedings as a "hoax," while House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said new evidence reinforced the need to call additional witnesses.

On this date:

In 1920, Prohibition began in the United States as the 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution took effect, one year to the day after its ratification. (It was later repealed by the 21st Amendment.)

In 1989, three days of rioting began in Miami when a police officer fatally shot Clement Lloyd, a Black motorcyclist, causing a crash that also claimed the life of Lloyd's passenger, Allan Blanchard. (The officer, William Lozano, was convicted of manslaughter, but then was acquitted in a retrial.)

In 2003, the space shuttle Columbia blasted off for what turned out to be its last flight; on board was Israel's first astronaut, Ilan Ramon. (The mission ended in tragedy on Feb. 1, when the shuttle broke up during its return descent, killing all seven crew members.)

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Rain & Snow Possible	Few Snow Showers	Few Snow Showers	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
37°	30°	35° / 27°	32° / 25°	35° / 26°	33° / 27°

Local Outlook

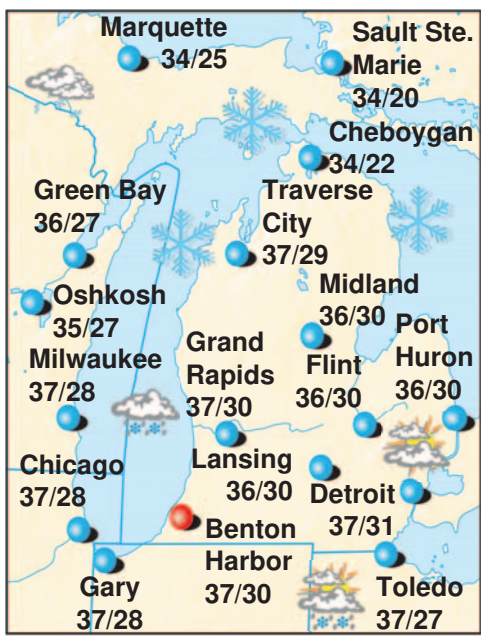
Today we will see cloudy skies with a 50% chance of rain and snow, high temperature of 37°, humidity of 82%. West wind 6 to 16 mph. Snow accumulation of less than one inch possible. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 50% chance of snow showers, overnight low of 30°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 8:10 a.m.
Sunset ..... 5:40 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 10:40 a.m.
Moonset ..... 9:32 p.m.

First 1/20 · Full 1/28 · Last 2/4 · New 2/11

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	35°
Low	29°
Normal High	31°
Normal Low	16°
Record High	44° in 2016
Record Low	-17° in 2009

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.05"
Month to date	0.90"
Normal for month	0.80"
Year to date	0.90"
Normal Year to date	0.80"

Air Quality

Yesterday 67
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

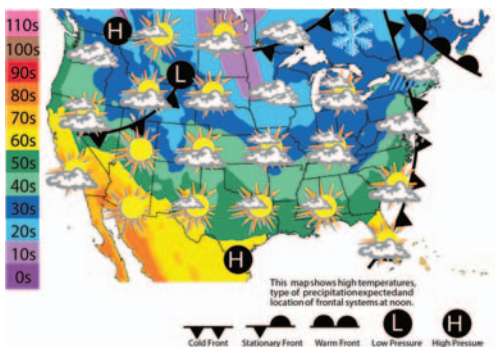
Weather Trivia

Which type of thunderstorm is considered to be most dangerous?

Answer: Supercell.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Jan. 16, 2021



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, SW wind 9 to 15 kt. A chance of rain and snow. Waves 1 ft or less building to 3 ft. Water temperature 35 degrees. Tonight, NW wind 14 to 17 kt, with gusts as high as 23 kt.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with widespread snow, highs in the 30s. East southeast wind 10 mph. Expect mostly cloudy to cloudy skies Sunday with isolated snow showers, highs in the 20s and 30s. North wind 7 to 10 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with scattered rain and snow, highs in the 30s. West wind 6 to 16 mph. Expect cloudy skies Sunday with scattered snow showers, highs in the 30s. West wind 7 to 10 mph.

Feds back away from claim of assassination plot at the U.S. Capitol

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER and JACQUES BILLEAUD
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Federal prosecutors who initially said there was "strong evidence" the pro-Trump mob that stormed the U.S. Capitol last week aimed to "capture and assassinate elected officials" backed away from the allegation after the head of the investigation cautioned Friday that the probe is still in its early stages and there was no "direct evidence" of such intentions.

The accusation came in a court filing by prosecutors late Thursday in Phoenix in the case against Jacob Chansley, the Arizona man who took part in the insurrection while sporting face paint, no shirt and a furry hat with horns.

"Strong evidence, including Chansley's own words and actions at the Capitol, supports that the intent of the Capitol rioters was to capture and assassinate elected officials in the United States Government," a prosecutor wrote in a memo urging the judge to keep Chansley behind bars. But at a hearing for Chansley later in the day in Phoenix, another prosecutor, Todd Allison, struck the line from the memo.

Allison said the statement may very well end up being appropriate at Chansley's trial, but said prosecutors didn't want to mislead the court and don't have to rely on the stricken statement to argue that he should remain in jail. Ultimately, a judge on Friday ordered Chansley to be jailed until his trial.

Earlier on Friday, Michael Sherwin, acting U.S. attorney for the District of Columbia, backed away from the assassination claims, saying they have "no direct evidence at this point of kill, capture teams."

Sherwin said there appears to have been confusion among some prosecutors in part because of the complexity of the investigation and number of people involved. Prosecutors raised a similar prospect Thursday in the case of a former Air Force officer who they alleged carried plastic zip-tie handcuffs because he intended "to take hostages."

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Experts say hearing loss could lead to dementia, but Hear Michigan can help Seniors with hearing loss!

Seniors with hearing loss are significantly more likely to develop dementia over time than those who retain their hearing, a February 2011 study by Johns Hopkins and the National Institute on Aging suggests.

"Although the reason for the link between the two conditions is unknown, the investigators suggest that a common pathology may underlie both or that the strain of decoding sounds over the years may overwhelm the brains of people with hearing loss, leaving them more vulnerable to dementia," states a summary of the report on the Johns Hopkins Medicine website. "They also speculate that hearing loss could lead to dementia by making individuals more socially isolated, a known risk factor for dementia and other cognitive disorders."

The scientists reported that whatever is causing the link, their finding may offer a starting point for interventions — such as hearing aids — that could delay or prevent dementia by improving patients' hearing.

Hear Michigan Audiology began over 20 years ago and has grown to 20 facilities, making it one of the largest private, family-owned hearing healthcare facilities in the state. With plans to continue to expand, Hear Michigan holds the ideals of servicing their customer, and providing the most advanced hearing aids at the best prices, in the highest regard. When you call into one of the locations, you will be greeted by a friendly HUMAN voice who is ready to assist you. "We treat you like you're one of our family" said owner John Ackerman.

The Association of Independent Hearing Healthcare Professionals (AIHHP.org) recommends adults have their hearing checked at regular intervals. They offered the following guidelines, although your hearing care professional may advise you differently depending on your own individual circumstances.

AGE RANGE	HOW OFTEN
18 to 45years old	Every 5 years
45 to 60 years old	Every 3 years
60 years plus	Every 2 years

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hp SPORTS

Kestrel flies over Van Buren County

Outdoors, Page B6

COLLEGE NOTES

Gondrezick earns honor from West Virginia

BH grad shines after father's passing; Coloma grad Goodline hits game-winner for Huntington

By HP STAFF

Benton Harbor graduate Kysre Gondrezick was named the West Virginia University Athlete of the Week after leading its women's basketball team to a big upset victory.

Gondrezick, a redshirt senior guard, scored a game-high 24 points in leading West Virginia to a 92-58 win over then-No. 17 Texas last Saturday.

She was playing just two days after the death of her father, Grant Gondrezick, a former NBA player who also coached boys high school basketball locally at Covert and Countryside.

Texas coach Vic Schaefer was impressed with how Gondrezick handled the difficult situation.

"You've got to tip your hat to that kid," Schaefer said in a story on Hookem.com. "I admire her for her courage today because that was a courageous thing that she did. I'm sure her daddy is awfully proud of her. Her whole team, I think, rallied around her."

Gondrezick continued her strong play on Wednesday, with 19 points and nine assists in an 83-78 home victory over Texas Tech.

It was the fourth straight game Gondrezick led the Mountaineers in scoring, and also their fourth straight win.

West Virginia is now 3-2 in the Big 12 and 9-2 overall on the season. Gondrezick is averaging 20.4 points, 4.7 assists and 2.0 steals per game, all team highs.

Goodline beats the buzzer for Huntington

Coloma graduate Zach Goodline delivered a big win in dramatic fashion for the Huntington University men's basketball team on Monday.

GOODLINE

The sophomore guard made a driving layup with 0.2 seconds left to help Huntington to a 73-71 road win over Marian, ranked No. 10 in the NAIA Division II poll.

With four seconds left and the score tied, Goodline took an inbound pass in the backcourt and dribbled three-fourths the length of the floor, cut between two defenders and laid the ball in for the win. He finished with a game-high 24 points,

See COLLEGE NOTES, page B3

Kathy Batten / AP

West Virginia guard Kysre Gondrezick, right, is defended by Baylor guard DiDi Richards during the first half of a game on Dec. 10 in Morgantown, W.Va.

Dock steps down as Lakeshore football coach

Longtime coach guided team to district title in brief return; will still run softball program

By AL AREND
HP Sports Correspondent

Legendary Lakeshore football coach Denny Dock has called it quits after an additional year on the job.

Dock, who returned to the Lancers sideline in 2020 after a six-year hiatus, said he retired again because he realized there were "so many things I missed doing" during his initial retirement.

"Granted it was an unusual season because of the pandemic, but I feel it was a successful one," he said in a phone conversation from Tampa, Fla. "I called Greg (Younger, Lakeshore athletic director) on Wednesday and told him of my decision."

Dock added he will remain on as Lakeshore girls softball coach.

"On behalf of Lakeshore Public Schools, I want to thank coach Dock for his effort this past offseason and season," Younger said in a statement. "Obviously

See DOCK, page B3

Don Campbell / HP staff

Coach Denny Dock celebrates Lakeshore's district final football win at St. Joseph on Nov. 14. Dock is heading back to retirement after a successful one-year return.

Lake Michigan College cancels basketball seasons

Red Hawks will play volleyball; season scheduled to begin Feb. 12

By HP STAFF

Lake Michigan College has canceled its 2021 men's and women's basketball seasons, but the Red Hawks are planning to play volleyball this winter.

The decision follows Wednesday's epidemic order from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services that extended a ban on contact sports through the end of January. Non-contact sports such as volleyball may begin practices on Jan. 16.

"We know this isn't the news our student-athletes and our fans were hoping to hear, and we share that disappointment," LMC athletic director Melissa Grau said in a news release. "Looking at a further shortened season, and continued safety concerns, we had to decide what was best for our student-athletes going forward."

Grau also said in the release that LMC will honor all basketball scholarships, and student-athletes whose seasons were canceled will not lose a year of eligibility.

LMC's volleyball team normally competes in the fall, but had its season postponed by COVID-19 concerns. The Red Hawks have a 12-game schedule posted on their website running from Feb. 12 to March 26, which includes 10 league contests in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association West Division.

Both LMC basketball programs are led by new coaches, who won't be able to debut until next season. The school announced in July that Rickey Hampton would be the men's coach and Ray Kimball would take over as women's coach.

White Sox finalize deal with closer Hendriks

By ANDREW SELIGMAN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Liam Hendriks saw the talent the Chicago White Sox had and knew he wanted to join the team. The move became official on Friday.

Chicago finalized a $54 million, three-year deal with the former Oakland Athletics' closer, another big move as the White Sox set their sights on a championship run.

"At the end of the season, my wife and I sat down and made a list of teams," Hendriks said. "On paper, the White Sox were the team that I wanted to go to."

The deal calls for a $1 million signing bonus and salaries of $11 million this season, $13 million in 2022 and $14 million in 2023. The White Sox hold a $15 million option for 2024 with a $15 million buyout that would be paid in 10 equal installments from 2024-33.

General manager Rick Hahn the buyout matching the 2024 salary "helped bridge the gap" between Hendriks' desire for a four guaranteed years and the White Sox's desire for three. Spreading out the buyout helps the team maintain payroll flexibility.

It's a strategy chairman Jerry Reinsdorf has used in negotiating contracts for his other team, the NBA's Chicago Bulls. And he suggested it again over the weekend.

"Jerry's always mentioned that to us as a device that appealed to him in the right situation," Hahn said.

Hendriks joins a team with a loaded lineup featuring AL MVP José Abreu and 2019 major league batting champion Tim Anderson. Ace Lucas Giolito leads a solid rotation along with Dallas Keuchel and newcomer Lance Lynn. The White Sox also hired Hall of Fame manager Tony La Russa, bringing him back to replace Rick Renteria, 34

Ben Margot / AP

Then-Oakland pitcher Liam Hendriks works against the San Francisco Giants in the 10th inning of an Aug. 14, 2020 game. The Chicago White Sox have finalized a $54 million, three-year deal with Hendriks.

years after they fired him.

Now, they have one of the game's best closers to anchor a deep bullpen after more than a year-long pursuit. Hahn said the White Sox had tried to acquire Hendriks in a trade. Instead, they pulled out the checkbook when most teams aren't spending big.

"I've got to give Jerry Reinsdorf a lot of credit, though, in that he's given us the flexibility during these extraordinarily uncertain – and obviously difficult for a lot of people – times to have the economic wherewithal to aggressively pursue premium upgrades to a team that we feel is pretty good," Hahn said. "Not everybody gets to be in that situation."

Cubs avoid arbitration with key players Bryant, Báez, Contreras

By ANDREW SELIGMAN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Cubs avoided arbitration with three of their biggest stars, agreeing to one-year deals with third baseman Kris Bryant, shortstop Javier Báez and catcher Willson Contreras on Friday.

Bryant, who struggled through injuries in his worst season, is set to earn $19.5 million. Baez is due $11,65 million and Contreras $6.65 million.

The Cubs also agreed to an $8,63 million deal for next season with pitcher Zach Davies, acquired in the trade that sent NL Cy Young Award runner-up Yu Darvish to San Diego.

The Cubs were unable to reach a deal with outfielder Ian Happ and are headed to arbitration for just the third time since 1993. They beat infielder Ryan Theriot in 2010 and pitcher Justin Grimm in 2018.

Chicago also made a move for the future, agreeing to a minor league contract with promising international prospect Cristian Hernandez, a person familiar with the situation said. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because the deal with the 17-year-old shortstop from the Dominican Republic has not been announced. MLB.com first reported the move.

The Cubs returned to the playoffs after missing out in 2019, only to score just one run while getting swept by Miami in their wild-card series. Theo Epstein stepped down as president of baseball operations and general manager Jed Hoyer got promoted to replace him. The Cubs then traded Darvish to San Diego for Davies and young prospects, ushering in a rebuilding phase.

With core players such as Báez and Bryant struggling, the Cubs ranked among the worst in the majors with a

See CUBS, page B3

Stamkos, Palat lift Lightning over Blackhawks again

By ERIK ERLENDSSON
Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Steven Stamkos and Ondrej Palat had a goal and an assist each, and the Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Chicago Blackhawks 5-2 on Friday night.

Lightning 5 Blackhawks 2

Yanni Gourde and Blake Coleman added a goal and an assist and Alex Killorn also scored as Tampa Bay completed a sweep in a season-opening two-game set against Chicago. The Lightning are 16-1-2 against the Blackhawks since the 2010-11 season.

Andrei Vasilevskiy stopped 34 shots for Tampa Bay, which started the season with consecutive victories for the first time since 2016-17.

Alex DeBrincat and Patrick Kane scored for the Blackhawks, and Collin Delia made 33 saves in his first game this season.

Tampa Bay, as it did in a 5-1 win Wednesday, broke out for three goals in the middle period.

Palat got things rolling after Stamkos picked off Delia's pass attempt behind Chicago's net and fed Palat coming down the slot for his second goal at 2:25. Killorn doubled the lead with his first of the season after taking a pass from Tyler Johnson and wristing a shot to the top corner at 4:43.

Coleman made it 3-0 by swatting a backhand from inside the crease at 8:11. Chicago coach Jeremy Colliton challenged for goaltender interference, but a quick review confirmed no contact on the play and the Blackhawks were called for delay of game for the failed challenge.

Chicago cashed in on a man advantage when Dylan Strome found DeBrincat across the ice for a one-timer from the left circle to make it 3-1 at 14:20.

The Blackhawks cut the deficit to one less than two minutes later when DeBrincat fed a backward pass from below the goalline to Kane, who lifted a backhand over Vasilevskiy at 16:11.

Gourde regained the two-goal lead when he ripped a half-slap shot past Delia at 13:32 of the third period.

Stamkos capped the scoring with a wrist shot from the right circle with 2:22 left.

SCHEDULE SHUFFLE: After postponing Tampa Bay's upcoming two games against Dallas on Sunday and Tuesday, the league announced adjustments to the Lightning's schedule. The game against Dallas originally scheduled for Jan. 17 will now be played May 4, and the second game against the Stars will be played May 10, two days after the season is scheduled to end. In addition, Tampa Bay's game scheduled for May 4 against Florida will now be played on March 16.

ROOKIE DEBUT: Chicago F Philipp Kurashev, a fourth-round pick in the 2018 draft, made his NHL debut playing left wing on the second line. Kurashev finished with 14:05 of ice time with two shots on goal and a minus-1 rating.

TAXI CALL: Tampa Bay activated C Tyler Johnson and D Luke Schenn off the taxi squad before the game and transferred rookie D Cal Foote, who made his NHL debut on Wednesday, to the group of extra players.

IN BRIEF

Bridgman to host Mini-Bees boys basketball program

Bridgman's Mini-Bee boys basketball program will run on Saturday mornings from Feb. 6 through March 6. It will be run by the Bridgman coaching staff of Mike Miller, Chuck Tate and Brad Yachstetter, as well as players.

The program will teach the "FUNdamentals" of basketball and include a T-shirt, contests, prizes and scrimmages. Players must have tennis shoes with non-marking soles, shorts and a T-shirt. Grades 3-4 will meet from 9-10:30 a.m., grades 5-6 from 10 a.m.-noon.

Cost is $35. For more information, contact coach Mike Miller at mmiller@bridgmanschools.com.

LM Catholic seeks boys golf coach

Lake Michigan Catholic is looking for a boys varsity golf coach for the spring season. If interested, contact athletic director Neil Carter at ncarter@lmclakers.org.

Ralph Lauren drops Thomas after gay slur heard on TV

HONOLULU (AP) — Ralph Lauren Corp. said Friday it is ending its sponsorship with Justin Thomas after he was heard muttering a homophobic slur to himself after missing a putt last week in Hawaii.

Thomas has worn the company's clothing since he turned pro. He has reached No. 1 in the world briefly on two occasions, won a major at age 24 and captured the FedEx Cup in 2017.

In the third round of the Sentry Tournament of Champions, he missed a 5-foot par putt on the fourth hole. He could be heard saying the slur under his breath as he tapped in.

Ralph Lauren said it was "disheartened" by his language.

"We believe in the dignity of all people, regardless of age, race, gender identity, ethnicity, political affiliation or sexual orientation," Ralph Lauren said in a statement.

Sue Ogrocki / AP

In this Sept. 17, 2016 photo, then-Ohio State coach Urban Meyer shouts from the sideline in the fourth quarter of a game against Oklahoma.

Meyer agrees to return to coaching with Jaguars

By MARK LONG
AP Pro Football Writer

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Urban Meyer agreed to become head coach of the Jacksonville Jaguars on Thursday, leaving the broadcast booth and returning to the sidelines after a two-year absence that followed another health scare.

The 56-year-old Meyer was team owner Shad Khan's top target, and Khan waited nearly a week to get it done. They met last Friday on Khan's yacht in Miami, again Wednesday and one final time at the facility Thursday. Hiring the longtime college coach with three national championships would signify a new direction for a franchise that has lost 105 of 144 games since Khan took over in 2012.

"This is a great day for Jacksonville and Jaguars fans everywhere," Khan said in a statement. "Urban Meyer is who we want and need, a leader, winner and champion who demands excellence and produces results.

"While Urban already enjoys a legacy in the game of football that few will ever match, his passion for the opportunity in front of him here in Jacksonville is powerful and unmistakable."

Meyer went 187-32 – a staggering winning percentage of 85.3 – in stops at Bowling Green (2001-02), Utah (2003-04), Florida (2005-10) and Ohio State (2012-18). He ranks seventh all time in collegiate winning percentage, trailing only Notre Dame legends Knute Rockne and Frank Leahy among coaches at major programs.

But some doubts remain about Meyer's ability to make a smooth transition to the NFL, where motivational tactics tend to be moot and losing multiple games every year is a given. Meyer never lost more than five times in any season as a college head coach; he went 83-9 at Ohio State.

Still, Meyer has been eyeing an NFL move for months. He researched the league with help from former players and friends, started assembling a potential staff and learned how the front office works. Meyer and Khan have been friends for years, building a relationship while both were living in Big Ten country.

Jacksonville was the most attractive opening. The Jaguars have 11 picks in the 2021 draft, including five in the top 65, and are nearly $100 million under the projected salary cap. Adding to the appeal: Khan, a billionaire businessman, has shown a penchant for patience and a willingness to spend big.

Clemson quarterback Trevor Lawrence is a lock to land in Jacksonville with the top pick and will be the centerpiece of the team's latest rebuild.

Meyer replaces Doug Marrone, who was fired after losing the final 15 games in 2020. Marrone went 25-44 in four-plus seasons with the Jaguars, including 2-1 in the 2017 postseason.

Marrone failed repeatedly to fill the team's long-standing hole at quarterback, and Khan kept him and general manager Dave Caldwell around a year longer than many expected to make them clean up a fractured locker room and a stressed salary cap.

Khan also interviewed Kansas City offensive coordinator Eric Bieniemy, Atlanta defensive coordinator Raheem Morris, San Francisco defensive coordinator Robert Saleh and Tennessee offensive coordinator Arthur Smith.

The general belief was the job was Meyer's if he wanted it. He clearly did, with some stipulations.

He will have the leeway to put his touch on every aspect of the organization, the kind of overhaul Jacksonville hasn't seen in nearly three decades of existence. Khan is switching to a coach-centric model that could give Meyer final say in personnel. Meyer and the next general manager will report to Khan, who wants to be more involved in the most significant roster decisions.

Harden sees title chance with Nets, says he'll sacrifice shots for it

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK — James Harden used his final interview in Houston to say that his team wasn't good enough.

He has a whole new message now that he's in Brooklyn.

Harden sees a roster that features Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving, a coaching staff that includes a coach under whom he became the NBA's leading scorer, and an opportunity to win the title he still lacks.

"You just add that all together, and it's like, that's a legit chance right there," Harden said. "It was a no-brainer for me."

The Nets acquired Harden from the Rockets on Thursday in a blockbuster deal that reunites him with Durant, his teammate in Oklahoma City. He could play for them Saturday if all the players in the deal, which also included Cleveland, pass their physicals in time.

The trade was completed just two days after Harden's final game with the Rockets, a blowout loss to the Los Angeles Lakers. Following the game, Harden said: "We're just not good enough ... I love this city. I literally have done everything that I can."

Harden said he wasn't being disrespectful to his former teammates.

"I've been there for a very long time. I've been through all the ups and downs with that organization and I wasn't disrespectful towards anyone," he said. "I just made a comment that the team as a whole wasn't good enough to compete for a title and at this stage of my career where I am now that's what I would love."

Harden praised the Rockets for working with him to get him to his favored destination and said he regretted his comments that he said were out of character for him.

"But the ultimate goal was to get somewhere where I can compete and here I am in Brooklyn," he added.

Harden said as he evaluated the Rockets after their loss to the Lakers in the second round of the playoffs, he determined they weren't good enough to beat the NBA's best teams. General manager Daryl Morey and coach Mike D'Antoni weren't going to return and Harden didn't believe in the roster left behind.

D'Antoni ended up joining Steve Nash's staff in Brooklyn and will help mold an offense that now features three of the NBA's top scorers.

Harden, like Durant and Irving, will have to give up some of the offensive opportunities he's had before.

"There's still plenty of shots to go around, there's still plenty of opportunities to make plays to go around, but it's not going to be in the same format that it was before where they were largely the No. 1 focal point," Nash said.

"It's going to be much more spread between the three of them and they also have to make their other teammates better."

Harden insists he can do that, saying his playmaking ability is underrated. The three-time scoring champion averaged about 20 shot attempts in Houston but also led the league in assists in 2016-17 and was averaging 10.4 in eight games this season.

"As long as I'm making my teammates better, it doesn't matter about the points," Harden said. "I think everybody knows that I can score the ball at a high clip and that's where the sacrifice comes in at."

Harden added that salary and status were more important earlier in his career, but said winning is at the top of his list now. He said he will do whatever it takes to do that in Brooklyn.

It might take, at least on some nights, going from being the main man to a No. 3 option. That seems OK with Harden – as long as the Nets are winning.

"I can't predict how it's going to go," Harden said. "Kyrie might score 10 possessions in a row. KD might score 10 possessions in a row. Like, they're more than capable of that and I'm fine with that because we're going to be winning and it's going to be good."

One-city March Madness leads to more straightforward bracket

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — There will be a bit less mystery to the March Madness bracket now that the NCAA selection committee no longer has to adjust matchups for travel concerns.

With the entire tournament taking place in the Indianapolis area this year because of the coronavirus pandemic, the Division I Men's Basketball Committee announced Friday that teams will be bracketed more closely to their true seeding, 1-68.

In the past, adjustments were made to keep teams as close as possible to their campuses for the early rounds.

"But this year only, with the entire tournament being played in Indiana, the committee believes in this different approach," said Dan Gavitt the NCAA's senior vice president of basketball.

There could still be exceptions, mainly to avoid repetitive matchups of conference teams who played each other during the regular season. But in general, the committee will put the top four overall seeds in separate sections of the bracket, with the No. 1 overall seed in the same section with the No. 8 overall seed, the top No. 2 seed in the same section with the No. 7 overall seed and the same approach for 3 vs. 6 and 4 vs. 5.

The same "S-curve' placement will continue throughout the bracket.

The matchups for the opening-round games will not change, with the four lowest-seeded teams meeting in two games and the last four at-large teams to make the field meeting in the other two.

There will be 37 at-large spots available – one more this year because of the Ivy League's cancellation of its season.

With all teams in the same area, there's a chance the schedule could be condensed. The Final Four remains set for April 3 and 5.

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When it comes to Veterans Benefits, many veterans and dependents don't know what they don't know. Nationwide, less than 10% of those eligible apply. Let us help to educate and navigate you thru the maze of what is available from discharge to death. Here are some of the many benefits:

★ Disability Compensation benefits for prior conditions, diseases or injuries that occurred in service or many years later as a result of service (e.g. Agent Orange Exposure, Camp Lejeune Contaminated Water, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder – combat or personal trauma) to name a few.

★ PTSD Counselors from the South Bend Vet Center who come to Berrien County twice a week.

★ Non-Service Connected Veterans Pension and Survivors Pension benefits (House Bound as well as Aid and Attendance) for low income veterans over age 65 or prior to age 65 that are disabled and have at least one day of wartime service (additional means tested restrictions apply).

★ Free transportation at designated stops for veterans enrolled in the VA Health Benefits Program to the VA Medical Center in Battle Creek and the VA Health Care Center in Mishawaka.

★ Financial assistance thru the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund for wartime veterans or peacetime veterans who earned an expeditionary medal (additional means tested restrictions apply).

★ Free financial coaching from an Accredited Financial Counselor and Financial Fitness Coach Counselor as well as ongoing Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University Military Edition classes.

More NBA games off as league struggles with virus

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

Another three NBA games were postponed Friday, including one in Minnesota only a couple hours before game time, as the league's struggle with increasing coronavirus numbers continued.

Among the revelations Friday: Timberwolves center Karl-Anthony Towns, whose mother and six other relatives have died from COVID-19, said he has tested positive. The Washington Wizards said that they have six players who are positive as well, and another three players out because contact tracing data suggested they could have been exposed.

"I pray every day that this nightmare of a virus will subside and I beg everyone to take it seriously by taking all of the necessary precautions," Towns wrote on social media.

The Timberwolves' game with the Memphis Grizzlies was called off, as were what would have been Wizards' home games Sunday and Monday against the Cleveland Cavaliers.

"The NBA's been pointing to this period for quite some time, that this was going to be very difficult," Wizards general manager Tommy Sheppard said. "And they weren't kidding."

The current tally of postponements: 13 since the start of the season, 12 of them – involving 16 of the NBA's 30 teams – since Sunday alone. Washington has seen four of its games pushed back, Boston and Phoenix have had three postponements. The Celtics returned to the floor Friday night against Orlando, Boston's first game in a week.

"We're all very grateful to be here and get a chance to play and compete," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said.

Brad Penner / AP

Brooklyn Nets coach Steve Nash points during the third quarter of the team's game against the New York Knicks on Wednesday.

Miami – which lost two games at Philadelphia this week with only eight players available – could get as many as six of its eight COVID-affected players who have missed time this week, largely because of contact tracing, back Saturday for a game against Detroit. All-Star Jimmy Butler will remain out, the Heat said, as will Avery Bradley.

The Wizards are just hoping to be able to have players in to resume workouts. No basketball has been played in their facility for most of this week; between COVID-related issues, and injuries to Russell Westbrook and Thomas Bryant, Washington has six players available right now.

The Wizards last played Monday, against Phoenix. The earliest they'll play again is this coming Wednesday in Charlotte – and even that would seem iffy, based on what will likely be a lack of practice time in the coming days. The Suns had a three-game homestand wiped away because they didn't have enough cleared players.

"I think four teams have missed multiple games," Sheppard said. "I think that's a small victory considering what's going on out there around the league."

Minnesota's next game on the schedule is Monday, the league's traditional game on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Atlanta. The news that any player has the virus would be crushing, and that it was Towns was particularly so given what his family has endured.

"Karl is the most important part of this organization," Timberwolves President Gersson Rosas said. "For what he's gone through, what Karl Sr.'s gone through, it couldn't be more heartbreaking today."

The NBA said earlier this week that 16 players tested positive in recent days, which was more than the NBA had seen in the last five weeks combined. Given the developments since, next week's report has the potential to be even worse.

Even coaches know they have to increase their own efforts. The NBA gave Orlando coach Steve Clifford a call recently, telling him he had to do a better job of keeping his mask on during games.

His response to the call? "Yes, sir," he said.

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	8	3	.727	—
Phila.	9	4	.692	—
Brooklyn	7	6	.538	2
New York	5	8	.385	4
Toronto	3	8	.273	5

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	6	6	.500	—
Atlanta	5	5	.500	—
Charlotte	6	7	.462	½
Miami	4	6	.400	1
Washington	3	8	.273	2½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	9	4	.692	—
Indiana	8	4	.667	½
Cleveland	6	7	.462	3
Chicago	4	8	.333	4 ½
Detroit	2	9	.182	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	6	5	.545	—
San Antonio	6	6	.500	½
Memphis	5	6	.455	1
New Orleans	4	6	.400	1½
Houston	4	6	.400	1½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	7	4	.636	—
Portland	7	5	.583	½
Denver	6	6	.500	1½
Oklahoma City	6	6	.500	1½
Minnesota	3	8	.273	4

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	10	3	.769	—
L.A. Clippers	8	4	.667	1½
Phoenix	7	4	.636	2
Golden State	6	6	.500	3½
Sacramento	5	7	.417	4½

Thursday's Games
Phila. 125, Miami 108
Toronto 111, Charlotte 108
Houston 109, San Antonio 105
Indiana 111, Portland 87
Denver 114, Golden State 104

Friday's Games
Boston 124, Orlando 97
Cleveland 106, New York 103
Milwaukee 112, Dallas 109
Washington at Detroit, ppd
Oklahoma City 127, Chicago 125 (OT)
Memphis at Minnesota, ppd
Atlanta at Utah
Golden State at Phoenix, ppd
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers

Saturday's Games
Houston at San Antonio, 5 p.m.
Orlando at Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
Charlotte at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 8 p.m.
Phila. at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Phoenix, ppd
Atlanta at Portland, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games
New York at Boston, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Washington, ppd
Chicago at Dallas, 3 p.m.
Phila. at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
Utah at Denver, 8 p.m.
New Orleans at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 10 p.m.

Monday's Games
Orlando at New York, 12 p.m.
Cleveland at Washington, ppd
Minnesota at Atlanta, 2:30 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 3 p.m.
San Antonio at Portland, 3 p.m.
Phoenix at Memphis, 5 p.m.
Dallas at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Golden State at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m.

NFL

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Saturday, Jan. 16
Los Angeles Rams at Green Bay, 4:35 p.m.
Baltimore at Buffalo, 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 17
Cleveland at Kansas City, 3:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at New Orleans, 6:40 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Louisville	4	0	1.000	9	1	.900
Virginia	4	0	1.000	8	2	.800
Virginia Tech	4	1	.800	10	2	.833
Clemson	3	1	.750	9	1	.900
Duke	3	1	.750	5	3	.625
Florida St.	2	1	.667	6	2	.750
Pittsburgh	2	1	.667	6	2	.750
Georgia Tech	2	1	.667	6	3	.667
North Carolina	3	2	.600	8	4	.667
NC State	2	3	.400	6	4	.600
Syracuse	1	2	.333	7	3	.700
Miami	1	5	.167	6	6	.455
Boston College	1	5	.167	3	9	.250
Wake Forest	0	4	.000	3	4	.429
Notre Dame	0	5	.000	3	8	.273

Saturday's Games
North Carolina at Florida St., Noon
Syracuse at Pittsburgh, Noon
Boston College at Notre Dame, 4 p.m.
Virginia at Clemson, 6 p.m.
Louisville at Miami, 8 p.m.
Georgia Tech at NC State, ppd.

Sunday's Game
Virginia Tech at Wake Forest, 6 p.m.

BIG EAST CONFERENCE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Villanova	3	0	1.000	8	1	.889
Creighton	6	1	.857	10	2	.833
UConn	4	1	.800	7	1	.875
Seton Hall	6	2	.750	9	5	.643
Xavier	3	2	.600	10	2	.833
Marquette	3	4	.429	7	6	.538
Providence	3	4	.429	7	6	.538
St. John's	2	5	.286	7	6	.538
Butler	2	5	.286	3	7	.300
Georgetown	1	5	.167	3	8	.273
DePaul	0	4	.000	1	4	.200

Friday's Game
Villanova at UConn, ppd.

Saturday's Games
Marquette at St. John's, Noon
Creighton at Butler, 2 p.m.
Valparaiso at DePaul, 4 p.m.
Georgetown at Providence, ppd.
Xavier at Seton Hall, ppd.

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Michigan	6	0	1.000	11	0	1.000
Iowa	5	1	.833	11	2	.846
Illinois	5	2	.714	9	4	.692
Wisconsin	4	2	.667	10	3	.769
Ohio St.	4	3	.571	10	3	.769
Purdue	4	3	.571	9	5	.643
Minnesota	3	4	.429	10	4	.714
Rutgers	3	4	.429	7	4	.636
Indiana	3	4	.429	8	6	.571
Northwestern	3	4	.429	6	5	.545
Michigan St.	2	4	.333	8	4	.667
Maryland	2	5	.286	7	6	.538
Penn St.	0	3	.000	3	4	.429
Nebraska	0	5	.000	4	8	.333

Thursday's Games
Purdue 81, Indiana 69
Michigan St. at Iowa, ppd.

Friday's Games
Maryland 100, Wingate 58
Wisconsin at Rutgers

Saturday's Games
Ohio St. at Illinois, Noon
Michigan at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
Nebraska at Maryland, ppd.

Sunday's Games
Iowa at Northwestern, Noon
Penn St. at Purdue, 1 p.m.
Indiana at Michigan St., ppd.

HORIZON LEAGUE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Cleveland St.	8	0	1.000	8	3	.727
Milwaukee	4	1	.800	5	2	.714
Wright St.	6	2	.750	8	3	.727
Robert Morris	2	1	.667	3	3	.500
N. Kentucky	3	3	.500	5	6	.455
Ill.-Chicago	2	2	.500	5	4	.556
Youngstown St.	3	5	.375	7	5	.583
Fort Wayne	3	5	.375	4	5	.444
Green Bay	3	5	.375	3	9	.250
Oakland	3	5	.375	3	12	.200
IUPUI	0	4	.000	1	4	.200
Detroit	0	4	.000	1	7	.125

Saturday's Games
Youngstown St. at Oakland, 3 p.m.
Green Bay at Detroit, 5 p.m.
Robert Morris at Ill.-Chicago, 6 p.m.
IUPUI at N. Kentucky, 6 p.m.
Fort Wayne at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Cleveland St. at Wright St., 7 p.m.

MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

	Conference W	L	Pct	All Games W	L	Pct
Toledo	6	0	1.000	11	3	.786
Bowling Green	5	1	.833	9	3	.750
Buffalo	3	1	.750	5	3	.625
Ball St.	3	2	.600	5	5	.500
Ohio	3	3	.500	7	5	.583
Kent St.	2	2	.500	5	3	.625
Akron	2	2	.500	4	3	.571
Miami (Ohio)	1	2	.333	4	4	.500
E. Michigan	1	3	.250	4	4	.500
Cent. Michigan	1	4	.200	5	7	.417
W. Michigan	1	4	.200	2	8	.200
N. Illinois	1	5	.167	2	9	.182

Thursday's Games
E. Michigan 67, Calvin 56

Friday's Game
Bowling Green at Buffalo

Saturday's Games
Miami (Ohio) at W. Michigan, Noon
N. Illinois at Ball St., 1 p.m.
Toledo at Akron, 2 p.m.
Kent St. at Ohio, 2 p.m.
E. Michigan at Cent. Michigan, 4:30 p.m.

NHL

Thursday's Games
Boston 3, New Jersey 2, SO
Winnipeg 4, Calgary 3, OT
Edmonton 5, Vancouver 2
Vegas 5, Anaheim 2
Minnesota 4, Los Angeles 3, OT
Washington 6, Buffalo 4
N.Y. Islanders 4, N.Y. Rangers 0
Carolina 3, Detroit 0
Nashville 3, Columbus 1
San Jose 4, Arizona 3, SO
Dallas at Florida, ppd

Friday's Games
Washington 2, Buffalo 1
Tampa Bay 5, Chicago 2
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 2
Ottawa 5, Toronto 3
St. Louis at Colorado
Dallas at Florida, ppd

Saturday's Games
Boston at New Jersey, 1 p.m.
San Jose at Arizona, 4 p.m.
Carolina at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Montreal at Edmonton, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Nashville, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Los Angeles, 9 p.m.
Anaheim at Vegas, 10 p.m.
Vancouver at Calgary, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games
Washington at Pittsburgh, 12 p.m.
Chicago at Florida, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Tampa Bay, ppd

Monday's Games
Columbus at Detroit, 12 p.m.
Boston at N.Y. Islanders, 5 p.m.
Winnipeg at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Nashville, 8 p.m.
San Jose at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Anaheim, 9 p.m.
Montreal at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Vancouver at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Arizona at Vegas, 10 p.m.

COLLEGE NOTES

From page B1

as well as six rebounds and three assists.

Goodline had another big game on Wednesday with 23 points and nine assists, but the Foresters fell 97-89 to top-ranked Indiana Wesleyan.

They are now 3-4 in the Crossroads League and 10-5 overall.

Goodline leads Huntington in scoring (18.2), assists (4.9), and steals (1.7) per game.

He is shooting 51.5 percent from the field, 36.8 percent on 3-pointers, and 82.1 percent from the free-throw line.

College Notes appear periodically throughout the school year. Send your information to sports@TheHP.com.

DOCK

From page B1

when we approached coach Dock about returning to the sidelines for us, we knew that he was thinking of a short return to help guide the program back to its winning ways. With the pandemic, and all that went with it, I think it made coach take a hard look at what being the head coach of two top-notch programs entailed. I am looking forward to working with coach as he continues to lead our softball program for the foreseeable future."

The Lancers went 7-2, winning a district title with their second victory of the season over arch rival St. Joseph, before the Lakeshore school board pulled the plug on the team's tournament run after numerous tournament delays caused by emergency orders to contain the spread of COVID-19.

"I'd say we had a good season," noted Dock. "We beat St. Joe twice and won the district."

In his total of 27 seasons at the Lakeshore helm, Dock's overall record was 216-66, a .766 winning percentage. His Lakeshore teams won 19 district titles and five regional crowns.

Overall, his high school football coaching record stands at 270-78 (.776), including stints at Hartford (23-5, .821) and Dowagiac (31-7, .816). He was 26-8 against St. Joseph, including a remarkable 17-game winning streak.

"I'm sure Lakeshore will find a suitable replacement," concluded Dock. "I never really considered being a head football coach again, until I was asked."

CUBS

From page B1

.220 batting average.

Báez, the 2018 NL MVP runner-up and two-time All-Star struggled in a big way at the plate last season. His averaged dropped 78 points to .203, and he hit just eight homers with 24 RBIs. Baez earned $3,703,704 prorated from a $10 million salary.

Bryant, the 2016 NL MVP, batted .206 – by far his career low. He had just four homers and 11 RBIs. Two of those home runs were hit in the final two games against the crosstown White Sox. Bryant earned a prorated $6,888,889 portion of an $18.6 million salary.

Contreras came on strong down the stretch at the plate to finish with a .243 average, seven homers and 26 RBIs. The two-time All-Star threw out nine runner stealing and drew praise for his improved pitch framing. Contreras earned $1,666,667 prorated from a $4.5 million salary.

Davies went 7-4 with a 2.73 ERA in 12 starts for San Diego last season. The 27-year-old right-hander was acquired by the Cubs along with a package of young prospects for Darvish and catcher Victor Caratini last month. Davies earned a prorated $1,944,444 portion of a $5,25 million salary.

Happ led the Cubs with 12 homers and was second on the team with 28 RBIs. He finished with a .258 average after slumping in September. He earned $231,111 prorated from a $624,000 salary.

Brees sees playoff clash with Brady's Bucs as fate

By BRETT MARTEL
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Drew Brees periodically discusses his long, extraordinary NFL journey in terms of fate and destiny.

The Saints quarterback says, for example, that his career-threatening throwing shoulder injury at the end of the 2005 season was meant to be. It precipitated his departure from the Chargers and move to New Orleans, where he shattered passing records and won a Super Bowl – all while helping rebuild a beloved American city that was reeling from Hurricane Katrina's devastation.

So when six-time Super Bowl winner Tom Brady decided to leave New England and begin a new chapter with Tampa Bay, in the NFC South, Brees couldn't escape the sense that he'd see Brady in a high-stakes game in January.

This rare postseason matchup of record-setting quarterbacks older than 41 is set for Sunday night, when the Saints (13-4) host the Buccaneers (12-5) in the divisional round of the NFC playoffs.

"Listen, when Tom Brady signed with the Bucs and I knew that he was coming to our division, I envisioned this game," Brees asserted this week. "I envisioned this game happening because I knew our aspirations as a team, to be in the playoffs and beyond. And I certainly knew what he was bringing to the Bucs and that talented roster."

Similarly, Brady figured that success in Tampa Bay would hinge on how he and Buccaneers handled their encounters with the Saints.

"They've been one of the top teams in the league for a long time and they've had some tough playoff losses (on) some really fluke plays," Brady said, referring to a last-second loss to Minnesota on a long passing play two seasons ago, and an admitted officiating blunder that helped the Rams beat the Saints in the NFC title game two seasons ago.

"Other than that, there's not a lot of bad about" the Saints, Brady said. "They're pretty spectacular."

Brees and Brady have been doing "spectacular" for two decades now. No wonder there's so much buildup for this game.

"We were texting back and forth on Monday just kind of chuckling at this whole scenario," Brees, who was turning 42 on Friday, said of an exchange he had with the 43-year-old Brady. "That's 85 years and a lot of football experience that's going to be on the field on Sunday."

Three of a kind

The Saints won both regular-season meetings by double digits en route to their franchise-record fourth straight division title.

This week, there has been a lot of talk about how hard it can be to beat a team three times.

But the Saints have done it before, defeating Carolina twice in the 2017 regular season and again in the playoffs.

NFL history also favors the Saints.

There have been 22 previous playoff games featuring a team that had been swept by its opponent during the regular season.

In 14 of those games, the team that had won the first two games won the third as well.

"When you beat a team twice, of course you're confident, but at the same time, you look over there and you see Tom Brady, the talent they have and you understand at a moment's notice they could score from anywhere," Saints defensive tackle Sheldon Rankins said. "They're going to pull out all the stops; we're going to pull out all the stops, because it's win or go home."

Tampa Bay transformation

While the Saints have owned the Buccaneers in recent years, Brady and his All-Star cast of playmakers have been one of the hottest offenses in the league during what is now a five-game winning streak.

Brady has completed 116 of 176 passes for 1,714 yards, 14 touchdowns and one interception during the surge.

"We've certainly come a long way," Brady said. "It's a complex game; there's a lot of moving parts (and) there's a lot of coordination involved between a lot of different positions. I think the quarterback-receiver relationship is really important."

Still, no defense has had more success against Brady this season than the Saints.

Brady has thrown five of his 12 interceptions against New Orleans. He also was sacked six times in the two earlier meetings.

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Title: "The First and Last"
Revelation 1:4-8
We will livestream at 9:00am and 10:35am.
www.YourPlacetoBelong.com

You can use FSA, HSA funds to buy eye masks, but not face masks

I've stashed masks everywhere to protect me from the spread of the coronavirus.

I have masks in my purse and in the pockets of my coats – just in case I forget to replace the disposable ones in my handbag. I have some in my car. (I keep extras for my husband, who sometimes absent-mindedly leaves home without a mask when we make runs to the grocery store).

Masks are the barrier that can help us from contracting a virus that has so far killed 379,000 people in the United States.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the use of masks – non-valved multi-layer cloth masks in particular – to limit the spread of the coronavirus, which it says is "transmitted predominantly by respiratory droplets generated when people cough, sneeze, sing, talk or breathe."

In 38 states, plus the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, you need a mask to enter any store or business. Clearly, then, masks are a vital product during this historic global pandemic. Masks save lives.

Yet the rules for two key tax-advantaged programs to help people pay for health and medical expenses haven't caught up with these dreadful times.

You can use funds in your health savings account (HSA) or flexible spending account (FSA) to buy anti-itch insect gel. But paper and cloth masks are not broadly accepted as eligible for purchase with FSA or HSA funds to protect against the coronavirus, which in one day killed 4,000 people last week. Hand sanitizer and surface cleaners used to prevent the spread of the virus are also ineligible.

With an FSA and HSA, you can set aside money, pretax, to pay for certain qualified health expenses, including medical products such as a thermometer for yourself or dependents.

Michelle Singletary

The contribution limit for an employee who chooses to participate in an FSA is $2,750 for 2021. Contributions are not subject to federal income tax, Social Security tax or Medicare tax. People decide how much they want to contribute.

HSAs are linked to high-deductible health plans (HDHP) and, like FSAs, they can also be used for various out-of-pocket expenses. The maximum amount you're allowed to contribute to an HSA for 2021 is $3,600 as an individual or $7,200 as a family. People 55 or older can contribute an extra $1,000 annually to an HSA.

"We think masks should be eligible," said Rachel Rouleau, vice president of compliance for Health-E Commerce, the parent brand of FSAstore.com and HSAstore.com, online marketplaces where people can purchase eligible products from their health-care spending accounts. "The IRS gives the guidance based on the law. And the IRS has not come out and given any guidance on masks to date."

Rouleau said it's possible some benefits administrators may approve the reimbursements for masks.

"You could probably go to your doctor and get something called a letter of medical necessity, which would support maybe a potential medical condition that you have now, which would require that you have the mask," Rouleau said.

However, even with such a letter, the benefits administrator may deny your claim.

Stephen Brooks from Rockville, Md., said he was denied reimbursement from his HSA to cover what he spent on masks.

"The CDC is telling me I need to wear a mask to protect my health, but the IRS is saying I can't use my HSA funds, even though the masks are for medical purposes," Brooks said. "It's ridiculous."

"Keep in mind that, even if it is permissible, a given FSA and HSA is not dutybound to cover every allowable expense," said IRS spokesman Eric Smith, who said he couldn't provide a specific answer to the mask issue.

Rouleau said the IRS could provide guidance that would allow people to use the funds in their FSA or HSA to purchase masks and other personal protective equipment, or Congress could enact legislation.

Last year, a bill before Congress would have allowed people to use their HSAs or FSAs to purchase face masks, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant products to protect themselves against the coronavirus. But the bill did not pass.

Health-E Commerce has created the Tax-Free Better campaign (taxfreebetter.com/take-action) to advocate for further expansion of expenses covered under FSAs and HSAs, including masks and PPE. People can sign a petition or contact their congressional representative.

"We think that masks should qualify as certainly prevention right now," Rouleau said. "The CDC is obviously recommending them, people are expected to wear them, and it seems like it should really be a qualified medical expense. But without IRS guidance, we can't sell them on our website and we can't tell people that they're broadly eligible."

If there was ever a time to expand the rules, it should be now, to help people cover the costs of masks or cleaning supplies that we know can limit the spread of the coronavirus.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichelleSingletary).

Ask the Fool

Multiple Questions

Q What's a stock's "multiple"? *— D.W., Naples, Florida*

A It's a ratio of two measures of a company. One of the most common multiples is the price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio, which is the stock's current price divided by its earnings per share. Imagine Scruffy's Chicken Shack (ticker: BUKBUK), trading at $80 per share. If it earned $4 per share over the past year, its P/E is 20 (80 divided by 4). It's trading at a P/E ratio of 20.

There are also price-to-sales multiples, book-value multiples, cash-flow multiples and more. It can be helpful to compare a company's multiples with those of its peers, to see whether its stock appears to be undervalued or overvalued. Nike, for example, recently sported a P/E ratio that was over 82, while Adidas' was not quite 41. That suggests that Adidas is more attractively priced, though of course you'd want to assess many more factors.

***

Q What's the difference between a private company and a public one? *— C.B., Bozeman, Montana*

A Public companies have shares of stock available to trade on the open markets. They're required to file quarterly earnings reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission, detailing revenue, expenses, debt loads, cash levels, taxes, income or losses — and much more. These reports are publicly available.

Privately held companies are not public — meaning average investors can't buy shares of them. They also don't have to reveal much about their operations and financial health. According to Forbes, the 100 biggest private companies in America include Koch Industries, Cargill, Deloitte, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Publix, Mars, H-E-B, Pilot Flying J, Enterprise Holdings (parent of the car-rental company), Bechtel, Cox Enterprises, Fidelity Investments, Bloomberg, SC Johnson, McKinsey & Company, Staples and Amway.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.

The Motley Fool

To Educate, Amuse & Enrich™

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Fool's School

Prepare for Disasters

It's fine to prepare for unlikely disasters, perhaps by buying earthquake insurance in a low-risk region, or keeping garlic on you in case of vampire attack. But be sure that you're preparing for more likely disasters, too, such as these:

• Having a bad credit score: A bad credit score will doom you to high interest rates when you're looking to borrow money, such as for a home or car. Start beefing up your score by paying down your debts and paying bills on time.

• Losing your job: As the ongoing pandemic has made clear, unexpected job losses happen, and they can put you in financial peril. Make sure you have an emergency fund stocked with at least several months' worth of critical living expenses, such as food, housing, utilities, taxes, transportation and so on. It's also good planning to make yourself more hirable by learning new skills or getting new certifications or degrees.

• Needing long-term care: Long-term care is an important issue everyone should consider. If you're wealthy, you can pay for any care you might need; if you're poor, you probably won't be able to pay for it at all. But if you're in between, consider long-term care insurance. Learn more at **LongTermCare.gov**.

• Not being able to retire: This is a big disaster awaiting millions of people who haven't socked away enough money to retire on. The best way out of this problem is to read up well in advance, make a plan and act on it. Good strategies include working for a few more years, saving as much as possible in IRAs and 401(k)s, cutting back on spending, taking on a side gig or two and perhaps cashing out a life insurance policy if it's no longer needed. One of your best moves might be to invest long-term dollars in the stock market, perhaps via a low-fee index fund (such as one that tracks the S&P 500).

My Smartest Investment

Widened Horizons

My smartest investment ever was leaving my hometown and broadening my horizons. *— M.I., online*

The Fool Responds: That's a terrific investment indeed. There are countless benefits of traveling: By exposing yourself to other regions and countries, you can get a sense of how other people live — which may help you appreciate just how good you have it compared to billions of others. Getting to know people in other places can help you get over any fears of outsiders or foreigners, and enjoying their hospitality can make you feel like a citizen of the world, not just your state or country. You may even end up making some very good friends around the country or the world.

Trying a wide variety of foods from various cuisines can introduce you to flavors and dishes that become lifelong favorites.

Travel abroad can be greatly enhanced if you take the time to learn the language spoken at your destination — and knowing at least one other language can also be an effective career booster, as lots of companies have (or want to have) international operations and may send employees to other countries.

Travel can boost your self-confidence, as you navigate unfamiliar locations and successfully deal with unexpected events (such as missing a train in Japan). Finally, travel can simply be fun and exciting, and it creates memories to look back on for the rest of your life.

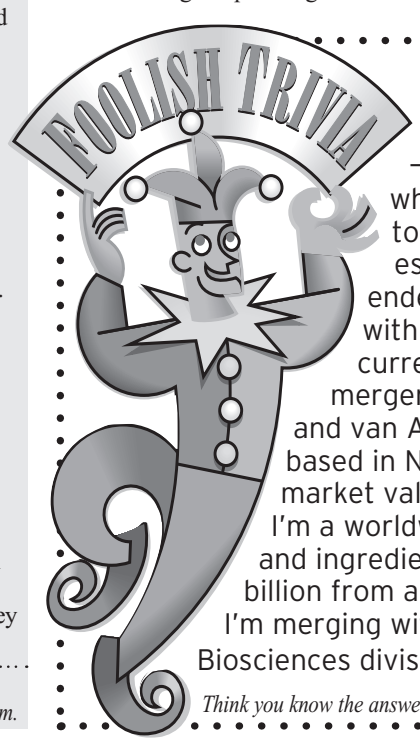
The Motley Fool Take

Tech Dividends

Cisco (Nasdaq: CSCO), the world's largest producer of networking routers and switches, has posted declining revenue for four straight quarters. Its infrastructure business, which generates over half its revenue, struggled with sluggish network upgrades, competition from rivals, the loss of Chinese contracts during the ongoing trade war and pandemic-related disruptions. Its smaller security business continued growing, but couldn't offset its other weaknesses.

Cisco's revenue declined 5% in fiscal 2020, but its adjusted earnings grew 4% as it cut costs and repurchased more shares. Analysts expect both its revenue and earnings to dip by about 1% this year. Those growth rates might seem dismal, but Cisco's core business should heat up again after the pandemic passes. Warmer relations between the U.S. and China under the Biden administration could stabilize Cisco's Chinese business, and it might pull customers away from Huawei as the Chinese tech giant struggles with trade blacklists and sanctions. A growing need for cloud and data center upgrades should also spark fresh orders for its routers and switches worldwide.

Cisco's stock isn't likely to rally anytime soon, but its low forward-looking price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio of 14 and its recent dividend yield of 3.2% should limit its downside risk. It's raised its dividend every year following its first payment in 2011, and is likely to keep doing so. Consider Cisco for your long-term portfolio.



Name That Company

Back in 1833, two men – a miller and a druggist who grew herbs – decided to make and sell drugs and essential oils. Their company ended up a part of me, along with many others. I got my current name after the 1958 merger between Polak & Schwarz and van Ameringen-Haebler. Today, based in New York City and with a market value recently near $13 billion, I'm a worldwide force in scents, tastes and ingredients. In 2019 I raked in $5.1 billion from about 38,000 customers. I'm merging with DuPont's Nutrition & Biosciences division. Who am I?

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to 1904, when a son of Italian immigrants founded the Bank of Italy in San Francisco, which morphed over time to become the world's largest commercial bank by the 1930s. I've gobbled up lots of companies, including credit card giant MBNA, U.S. Trust, FleetBoston Financial (which traced its roots to 1784) and even Merrill Lynch. Today, based in Charlotte, North Carolina, I sport a market value recently near $262 billion. I serve about 66 million customers via roughly 4,300 retail financial centers, and about 31 million customers bank with me using mobile devices. Who am I? (Answer: Bank of America)

Want to Invest? Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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Four financial 'experts' who could steer you wrong

None of us knows everything we need to know about money, so we may turn to experts for help.

Liz Weston

But some money professionals who offer advice are not qualified to do so – nor are they required to put our interests ahead of theirs.

Be cautious when accepting advice from the following sources.

The dealership

The dealership wants to sell you a car. To make the payments more affordable, you may be offered a loan that lasts six, seven or even eight years.

Longer loans can get you smaller monthly payments, but they cost more overall, since you'll pay more interest. You'll also likely spend several years "upside down," or owing more than your vehicle is worth. As the car ages, you could easily face big repair bills while still making payments. If you needed to sell the car, you would have to come up with money to pay off the loan. Alternatively, you could roll the negative equity into your next car purchase, but that would make your next loan even more expensive.

A better approach: Limit your auto loans to a maximum of five years for new cars or three years for used cars. A 20 percent down payment can help you avoid negative equity, as well. Consider getting pre-approved for a loan from your local credit union or bank or an online lender. That can help you withstand the dealership trying to pressure you into expensive financing.

Mortgage pros

Good mortgage brokers or loan officers can be invaluable in helping you navigate a complicated process and understand the guidelines that lenders use to determine how big of a loan you can qualify for. But they can't tell you how big of a loan you can comfortably afford. Neither can your real estate agent, for that matter.

True affordability will depend on a lot of factors that aren't captured in your application, including when you want to retire and how much you want to save for other goals such as a child's education.

There's also your comfort level. Some people are fine borrowing the maximum, because they believe their finances will only get better. Others prefer to borrow more conservatively.

A better approach: Use online calculators to estimate how much to save for retirement and other goals. Then include those figures in your monthly expenses when using a mortgage affordability calculator. Or consult a fiduciary adviser, such as a certified financial planner, accredited financial counselor or accredited financial coach. "Fiduciary" means obligated to put your best interests first. Most financial advisers aren't fiduciaries, so make sure to ask.

Stockbrokers

A stockbroker may tell you that rolling your old 401(k) account into an individual retirement account gives you many more investment options, and that's typically true. But IRAs can cost you more, and 401(k)s have better consumer protections.

Stockbrokers want to sell you investments that earn them commissions. Typically, they have no responsibility to make sure those investments are in your best interest. By contrast, a 401(k) administrator is a fiduciary, so it's required to put your interests first and provide good investment options at a reasonable cost. Many 401(k)s offer access to ultra-low-cost institutional funds that aren't available in an IRA.

In addition, your entire 401(k) balance is protected from creditors. By contrast, your protections with an IRA depend on state law. Many states exempt only an amount "reasonably necessary for support" – which means in some cases, creditors potentially could get it all.

A better approach: Leave the money where it is if you like the old 401(k)'s investment options, or roll it into a new employer's plan if that's allowed. Otherwise, roll the money into an IRA at a discount brokerage. If you need help with how to invest it, consult a fiduciary adviser.

Social Security benefits

You can collect Social Security as early as age 62, but your monthly benefit increases the longer you delay applying until it maxes out at age 70. Multiple studies have shown that most people will collect more over their lifetimes if they delay filing. It's particularly important for the higher earner in a married couple to delay, because that benefit determines what the survivor will get once the first spouse dies.

Unfortunately, Social Security Administration employees sometimes advise people to start early – even though Social Security employees aren't supposed to give advice.

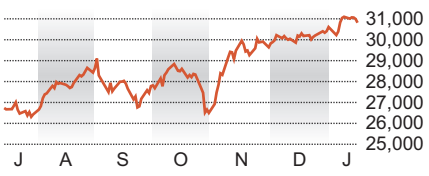
Applicants have been told, for example, that it doesn't matter when they start benefits because the amounts paid out over their lifetimes will be the same. That's a misinterpretation of Social Security's attempt to be "actuarially neutral," or have the system pay out the same amount in total regardless of when people claim benefits.

A better approach: A Social Security claiming calculator can help you figure out when to start benefits. AARP has a free one, while more sophisticated versions are available starting at $20 at Social Security Solutions or $40 at Maximize My Social Security.

Liz Weston is a columnist at NerdWallet, a certified financial planner and author of "Your Credit Score." Email: lweston@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @lizweston.

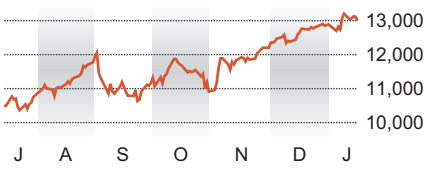
MARKETS

Jan. 15, 2021
Dow Jones industrials
-177.26
30,814.26



Pct. change from previous: -0.57% High 30,941.98 Low 30,612.67

Jan. 15, 2021
Nasdaq composite
-114.14
12,998.50



Pct. change from previous: -0.87% High 13,139.83 Low 12,949.76

Amer Elec Power AEP
$80.47 **+1.64 +2.1%**
▼ **4-wk.** -3.4% ▼ **YTD** -3.4%

Whirlpool WHR
$194.54 **+1.67 +.9%**
▲ **4-wk.** +3.3% ▲ **YTD** +7.8%

LocalStocks

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	HI	◇CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR
AT&T Inc	T	26.08	39.14	29.17	-.12	-0.4	▲	▼	▲
AEP	AEP	65.14	104.97	80.47	+1.64	+2.1	▲	▼	▼
Apple Inc s	AAPL	53.15	138.79	127.14	-1.77	-1.4	▼	▲	▼
AutoZone	AZO	684.91	1297.82	1248.33	+.31	...	▼	▲	▲
BP PLC	BP	14.74	39.07	24.26	-1.21	-4.8	▼	▲	▲
CMS Eng	CMS	46.03	69.12	58.62	+.80	+1.4	▲	▼	▼
CocaCola	KO	36.27	60.07	48.70	-.53	-1.1	▼	▼	▼
Comcast	CMCSA	31.71	52.49	48.69	-.89	-1.8	▼	▼	▼
Deere	DE	106.14	306.35	295.40	-7.45	-2.5	▲	▲	▲
Disney	DIS	79.07	183.40	171.44	-1.99	-1.1	▼	▼	▼
DollarTree	DLTR	60.20	115.45	108.34	-1.63	-1.5	▼	▼	▲
ExxonMbl	XOM	30.11	69.87	47.89	-2.42	-4.8	▲	▲	▲
FifthThird	FITB	11.10	32.82	31.87	-.68	-2.1	▲	▲	▲
1stSource	SRCE	26.07	51.85	42.98	-.52	-1.2	▲	▲	▲
FordM	F	3.96	10.20	9.83	-.34	-3.3	▲	▲	▲
GenElec	GE	5.48	13.26	11.33	-.33	-2.8	▼	▲	▲
HomeDp	HD	140.63	292.95	275.59	+7.25	+2.7	▲	▲	▲
HorizBcp	HBNC	7.42	18.75	16.85	-.12	-0.7	▲	▲	▲
HuntBncsh	HBAN	6.82	15.12	14.76	-.24	-1.6	▲	▲	▲
IDEX	IEX	104.56	211.71	194.04	-5.24	-2.6	▼	▼	▼
IBM	IBM	90.56	158.75	128.39	-.58	-0.4	▼	▲	▲
JPMorgCh	JPM	76.91	142.75	138.64	-2.53	-1.8	▲	▲	▲
JohnJn	JNJ	109.16	161.95	160.30	-.35	-0.2	▲	▲	▲
Lowes	LOW	60.00	180.67	171.34	+.95	+0.6	▲	▲	▲
McDnlds	MCD	124.23	231.91	209.91	+1.41	+0.7	▼	▼	▼
Microsoft	MSFT	132.52	232.86	212.65	-.37	-0.2	▼	▼	▼
MillerHer	MLHR	14.39	41.63	35.66	-.26	-0.7	▲	▲	▲
Perrigo	PRGO	40.01	63.86	43.71	-.94	-2.1	▼	▼	▼
Pfizer	PFE	27.88	43.08	36.70	-.05	-0.1	▼	▼	▼
ProctGam	PG	94.34	146.92	134.78	-1.02	-0.8	▼	▼	▼
RepubSvc	RSG	65.37	103.79	93.81	+.11	+0.1	▼	▼	▼
Steelcse	SCS	7.02	19.82	13.20	-.17	-1.3	▼	▼	▼
Stryker	SYK	124.54	247.44	241.99	-.14	-0.1	▼	▲	▼
TCF Finl	TCF	16.96	46.10	43.75	-.67	-1.5	▲	▲	▲
Target	TGT	90.17	199.96	194.80	-3.21	-1.6	▲	▲	▲
TractSupp	TSCO	63.89	157.08	157.48	+1.04	+0.7	▲	▲	▲
UPS B	UPS	82.00	178.01	158.90	-4.57	-2.8	▲	▼	▼
VerizonCm	VZ	48.84	61.95	57.38	+.34	+0.6	▼	▼	▼
WEC Engy	WEC	68.01	109.53	88.69	+1.83	+2.1	▲	▼	▼
WalMart	WMT	102.00	153.66	144.64	-2.33	-1.6	▼	▼	▲
WalgBoots	WBA	33.36	54.79	48.92	-.40	-0.8	▲	▲	▲
Wendys Co	WEN	6.82	24.91	21.65	+.79	+3.8	▲	▼	▼
Whrlpl	WHR	64.00	207.30	194.54	+1.67	+0.9	▲	▲	▲
Worthgtn	WOR	19.28	58.99	56.22	...	...	▲	▲	▲
XPO Logis	XPO	38.47	128.57	118.86	-1.94	-1.6	▼	▼	▼

PRODUCE PRICES

The following fruit prices were recorded on the Chicago Terminal Market on Wednesday. Prices are not net to the growers as freight and selling fees have not been deducted. These prices were provided by the USDA Market News Branch office in Chicago.

APPLES: Cartons tray pack of Washington Extra Fancy 72s Red Delicious of fine appearance sold lower from $31-33, Golden Delicious fine appearance fruit sold lower from $38, Fuji brought mostly $34-36, Pink Lady sold from $40, Gala sold steady from $35-36 with fine appearance offerings from $39-40, and 72 size Honeycrisp 80s sold for $35-36 with fine appearance $48. Cartons of 12 3-pound film bags of Washington WA Extra Fancy 2 1/2-inch minimum Red Delicious sold for $28, while Golden Delicious sold for $26-27, Fuji sold for $22 and Gala brought $30, while bushel cartons of 3-inch up Michigan Gala, Golden Delicious and Jonagold sold for $20.

ASPARAGUS: 11-pound cartons/crates bunched from Peru standard and large size sold higher from $38.50-42.

BEANS: Bushel cartons/crates of round green type machine-picked offerings from Florida sold higher from $34.50.

BERRIES: Flats of 12 1-pint cups with lids of medium-large size blueberries from Chile sold from $28-28.50, with fine appearance offerings from Mexico sold lower for $28-28.50. No organic offerings. Strawberries in flats of 12 1-pound containers medium-large size from Mexico sold lower for $24-24.50. No organic offerings.

BROCCOLI: Cartons of 14 bunches from California sold lower from $22-24, with organic offerings $20.50-22.

CABBAGE: 50-pound cartons of round green medium from Georgia sold from $18.50-20, with offerings from Texas slightly higher at $20 and red offerings $30.50-32.

CAULIFLOWER: Cartons of 12 film wrapped heads from Arizona sold for $30.50-32. No organic offerings.

CORN: Wirebound crates of four dozen Florida bi-color sold lower for $40, with yellow offerings higher at $48.

CRANBERRIES: Cartons of 24 12-ounce packages of offerings from Wisconsin sold from mostly $29-30.

CUCUMBERS: 1-1/9-bushel cartons from Mexico of medium size sold for $22-24, large sold for $20-22, while carton 24s sold higher for $11-12. Pickles of 200-300 size from Mexico sold for $34.

EGGPLANT: 1 1/9-bushel cartons 24s from Mexico sold for $15-16.

LETTUCE: Cartons film wrapped 24 heads of iceberg lettuce from Arizona/California sold higher for mostly $22-24.50, with organic offerings $40.

ORANGES: Cartons of 10 4-pound film bags of California 72 size valencia juice oranges sold steady for mostly $28-29.

PEPPERS: 1-1/9-bushel cartons of Florida green extra-large sold for $26. Medium-large size cubanelle peppers from Florida sold for $32, with Mexico offerings of medium-large hungarian wax peppers sold for $22-24, extra-large serranos sold for mostly $27-28, long hots brought $20-22 and medium poblanos from Mexico brought $22-24 while extra-large size jalapenos sold for $18-20.

SQUASH: 4/7-bushel cartons of small-medium zucchini from Mexico sold higher for mostly $15-17, with medium higher for mostly $13-15, while yellow straightneck small-medium sold higher for $16-18 with mediums $16-18. 40-pound cartons of medium size butternut from Mexico sold higher for $19-20, Mexico offerings of acorn from $20 and spaghetti from $17-19.

TOMATOES: 25-pound cartons loose vine-ripe offerings from Mexico of 5x5 size sold for $30-32, and 5x6 mature green offerings from Florida sold higher for mostly $36-37, while cartons 2-layer offerings of vine ripes from Mexico of 4x5 size sold lower for $33-35. Cartons of 12 1-pint baskets of cherry type light red-red medium size from Mexico sold for $18, while grape type Arizona sold from $20. Plum tomatoes packed in 25-pound cartons loose of extra-large size from Mexico sold lower from mostly $19-21.

WAYLAND LIVESTOCK

As of Tuesday, Jan. 12. Prices are per pound.
High yielding choice & prime .... $1.01 – $1.06
Choice steers & heifers .....96 – $1.01 cents
Utility cows ..... 50 cents – 59 cents
Canner & cutter cows ..... 30 cents – 52 cents
Bulls ..... 50 cents – 73 cents
Top bull calves .....50 cents – .80 cents
Hay .....$4.00 – $7.25 per bale
Straw ..... $3.80 – $4.10
For information, call 792-2296 or fax 792-8055.

Photos by Gerald Herbert / AP

A man walks past boxes that were moved out of the Eisenhower Executive Office building, just outside the West Wing, inside the White House complex Thursday in Washington.

Trump to leave Washington on morning of Biden's inauguration

By JILL COLVIN and DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press

President Donald Trump arrives on the South Lawn of the White House, in Washington, after returning from Texas on Tuesday.

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump will leave Washington next Wednesday morning just before President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration to begin his post-presidential life in Florida.

Refusing to abide by tradition and participate in the ceremonial transfer of power, Trump will instead hold his own departure ceremony at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland before his final flight aboard Air Force One.

Officials are considering an elaborate send-off event reminiscent of the receptions he's received during state visits abroad, complete with a red carpet, color guard, military band and even a 21-gun salute, according to a person familiar with the planning who spoke on condition of anonymity ahead of a formal announcement.

Trump will become only the fourth president in history to boycott his successor's inauguration. And while he has said he is now committed to a peaceful transition of power – after months of trying to delegitimize Biden's victory with baseless allegations of mass voter fraud and spurring on his supporters who stormed the Capitol – he has made clear he has no interest in making a show of it.

He has not invited the Bidens to the White House for the traditional bread-breaking, nor has he spoken with Biden by phone. Vice President Mike Pence has spoken with his successor, Vice President-elect Kamala Harris, calling her on Thursday to congratulate her and offer assistance, according to two people familiar with the call. Pence will be attending Biden's inauguration, a move Biden has welcomed.

While Trump spends the final days of his presidency ensconced in the White House, more isolated than ever as he confronts the fallout from the Capitol riot, staffers are already heading out the door. Many have already departed, including those who resigned after the attack, while others have been busy packing up their offices and moving out personal belongings – souvenirs and taxidermy included.

On Thursday, chief of staff Mark Meadows' wife was caught on camera leaving with a dead, stuffed bird. And trade adviser Peter Navarro, who defended the president's effort to overturn the election, was photographed carrying out a giant photo of a meeting between Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping. (Staff are allowed to purchase the photographs, said White House spokesman Judd Deere.) Also spotted departing the West Wing: a bust of Abraham Lincoln.

Stewart D. McLaurin, the president of the White House Historical Association, said he had reached out to the White House chief usher, who manages the building's artifacts with the White House curator, because of questions raised by the images.

"Be reminded that staff have items of their own that they brought to the White House and can take those items home as they wish. Some items are on loan to staff and offices from other collections and will be returned to those collections," he said in a statement.

Earlier this week, reporters covering the president's departure from the South Lawn spotted staff taking boxes into the residence for packing up the first family's belongings.

And on Friday the packing continued, with moving crates and boxes dotting the floor of the office suite where senior press aides work steps from the Oval Office in the West Wing. Walls in the hallways outside that once featured a rotating gallery of enlarged photographs of the president and first lady framed in gold suddenly were bare, with only the hooks that held the picture frames left hanging.

Moving trucks pulled in and out of the driveway outside.

While some people have been asked to stick around by the incoming administration, the White House has been reduced to a skeleton crew, with more scheduled to depart on Friday. That includes White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany. Come Monday, the press staff will be down to two.

Benefits of a small business advisory board

Starting and managing a small business requires paying attention to multiple areas of responsibility.

Accounting, marketing, operations, sales, customer service…and the list goes on. Rarely do entrepreneurs have the knowledge and skills to adeptly strategize ways to successfully execute all of them on their own.

To improve areas of their businesses and discover ways to streamline processes, some businesses enlist the help of advisory boards.

According to Penny Pompei, SCORE mentor and chairman of the Palm Beach chapter, "It truly is very lonely at the top, especially at the top of a small business. You are expected to be all things to all people, and while lots of people have plenty of advice for you, they don't fully understand your business, nor do they always have your best interests at heart."

An advisory board consists of professionals with expertise in various business disciplines, who provide strategic advice to help an entrepreneur manage and grow the business. Unlike having a board of directors, having an advisory board doesn't obligate a business owner to act on the guidance provided. Advisory boards offer an opportunity to glean knowledge from experts without the formality and structure of a board of directors.

SCORE™

This column is provided by SCORE, an organization dedicated to helping small businesses start, grow and succeed. The local SCORE chapter provide free and confidential mentoring in management, accounting, marketing and business plan preparation.

Some ways small business owners can benefit from advisory boards include:

■ Challenge the "tunnel vision" that is keeping them from exploring new approaches that might be more effective than what they're currently doing.

■ Stimulate creative thinking.

■ Connect them with valuable contacts and resources they otherwise might not have had an opportunity to meet.

■ Facilitate professional and personal development via the new knowledge gained from the members of their board.

■ Serve as a sounding board for addressing challenges, solving problems, and exploring new ideas.

■ Give them a greater sense of accountability, knowing others have a keen interest in their progress and success.

"Do yourself a favor and never pick your friends and relatives to be on your advisory board," advises Pompei. "That always leads to problems. You really don't even have to like the people that you choose – but you must respect their knowledge and ability. If you make widgets, you don't need another widget expert to advise you – you need people who are forward thinkers about their own businesses. If you haven't yet read "Team of Rivals" about President Lincoln's trusted advisors, now is the perfect time to do so. He knew differing opinions made an organization strong, as long as everyone knew that the ultimate decision rested on his shoulders. Every business stands a chance of being "Uber'ed" out of existence. Pick advisors that will help you predict the future."

If you think your small business could benefit from the help of an advisory board, reach out to your local SCORE chapter to discuss the possibility of forming one for your company.

SCORE mentors offer expertise in all aspects of starting and running a small business; they have the knowledge and experience to help you assess your efforts and guide you in ways to reach your goals.

Visit SCORE at www.score.org and locally at www.swmi.score.org. The Kalamazoo Chapter phone is 269-344-1419.

hp OUTDOORS

Submitting hunting or fishing photos

Have a behemoth buck, a tremendous turkey or super-sized salmon? Please submit photos to sports@TheHP.com.

Your photo must be in focus, all persons in the photo must be identified, and the general location of the hunt must be provided (for example, 10-point buck shot in Benton Township, black bear shot near Munising, Mich., etc.)

Kestrel spotted in Van Buren county

Jonathan Wuepper
Southwest Michigan Wildlife

Nathan Myrkle of Bangor sent in photos of a male American kestrel, which is a species of falcon, taken Jan. 8 in Arlington Township in central Van Buren County.

The American kestrel is evenly distributed in the summer months over Michigan, wherever suitable habitats such as old fields, meadows, prairies or forest openings exist. Kestrel numbers in the forested areas of the Upper Peninsula are somewhat limited.

In Southwest Michigan, nesting kestrel populations have declined over the last 40 years, as have many other species of birds and animals dependent on grassland habitats. That type of habitat has declined due in part to changing farming practices and development.

The number of kestrels in Southwest Michigan is greatest during spring and fall migrations when hundreds, or perhaps thousands, of the species migrate along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

The local winter population of kestrels is higher than the summer population, because many that spend their summers in the north winter in Southwest Michigan.

John M. Ripley of Niles Township took a nice photo of a male eastern bluebird last month as it perched on a feeder in his yard.

Eastern bluebirds remain the entire winter over the southern half of the lower peninsula of Michigan. During the last week of February, we start to see an influx of bluebirds from the south. Be sure to have your bluebird nesting boxes cleaned out by late February, because nest site selection may begin as early as March in southern Michigan.

Mike Mahler, on staff at Sarett Nature Center, located five northern shovelers in Ox Creek in Benton Harbor on Jan. 1, one of which was photographed and featured in today's column.

Photo provided / Nathan Myrkle

An American kestrel on Jan. 8 in Arlington Township.

Photo provided / Nathan Myrkle

An American kestrel on Jan. 8 in Arlington Township.

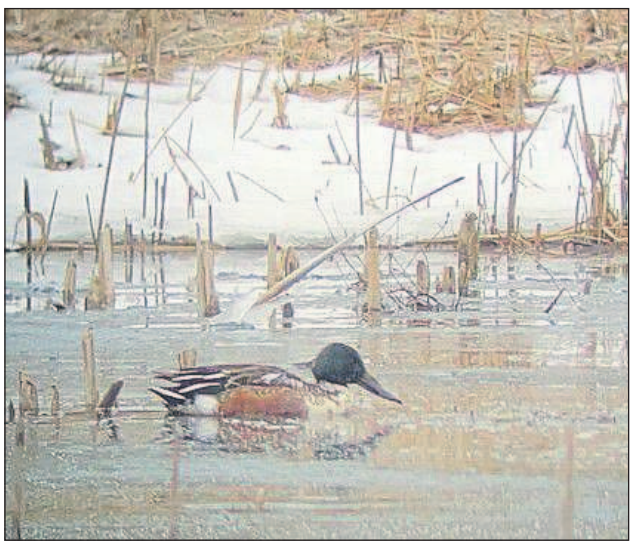


Photo provided / Mike Mahler

A northern shovelor drake on Jan. 1 at Ox Creek, Benton Harbor.

Northern shovelers are a species of duck known for their large spoon or spatula-like bill. The individual in Mahler's photo is a male, or drake, as it has a green head, chestnut sides, and white chest. Females are mottled brown.

Northern shovelers are most common to our west out on the marshes of our prairie regions. These are specifically known as "prairie potholes". They migrate through Southwest Michigan each spring and fall in relatively small numbers, occasionally one may spend the summer.

Shovelers can be found in winter in Southwest Michigan but in small numbers. The flock of five at Ox Creek is considered a good number for January.

Photo provided / John M. Ripley

A male eastern bluebird in Niles Township last month.

Photo provided / Brad Anderson

A male red-bellied woodpecker on Dec. 24 in Bridgman.

Finally, a nice image of a male red-bellied woodpecker was submitted by Brad Anderson, taken Dec. 24 as the bird inched its way down a Scotch pine tree. In the photo you can see a slight reddish tinge on the bird's lower belly, for which it is named.

Jonathan Wuepper is an area naturalist. Report your sightings to him at wuepperj@gmail.com.

Watervliet Rod & Gun Club

CPL classes: The Watervliet Rod and Gun Club is offering concealed pistol license classes.

February: Register from 6-7 p.m. Feb. 2. Classes are from 6-10 p.m. Feb. 4 and from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Feb. 6. For more information, call 470-9191 or 468-3837.

Harbor Country Hikers

Winter hiking tips: 2 p.m. Jan. 23 at New Buffalo Area Schools Nature Study Trails. HCH president Pat Fisher will discuss and demonstrate proper cold-weather clothing and gear and pass along tips to avoid cold-related injuries and illnesses. Hikers should dress in layers, wear a warm hat and bring water for a 1.5-mile hike of moderate difficulty. The Hikers observe social distancing and the use of face masks is required. For more information, go to harborcountryhikers.com/events.

Submit information for Get Outdoors to sports@TheHP.com, fax to 429-4392 or call 429-1294 by Wednesday.

FISHING REPORT

Southwest Lower Peninsula

Anglers are starting to get out on some bays and small lakes in the region; however, use extreme caution and avoid the large lakes as well as the deeper areas on all lakes.

Calhoun County: Anglers were out on several lakes in the area. Some were getting limit catches of bluegill.

Barry County: Good perch fishing was reported on Gun Lake.

Grand River near Grand Rapids: The occasional steelhead continues to be caught. In Ottawa County, limit catches of bluegill were coming off Jubb and Eastmanville bayous. Fishing slowed on Bruce's and Lloyd's bayous.

Muskegon Lake: Perch were caught in open water. Pike were taken through the ice along the north shore.

Muskegon River: Had reports of a good perch bite in the areas with good ice.

White River: Steelhead fishing was slow.

— Michigan DNR, Jan. 13

Ludington's Chaotic Mike to host second virtual art workshop

By HANNAH HUBBARD
Ludington Daily News

LUDINGTON — The Ludington Area Center for the Arts is holding virtual art workshops – dubbed Workshops in a Box – in place of in-person lessons while it is temporarily closed due to the pandemic, and local artist "Chaotic" Mike Coleman will host one of these events on Wednesday, Jan. 20.

It will be one of Coleman's chaotic fish workshops, and participants will learn to paint a one-of-a-kind fish designed onto pieces of reclaimed wood with help from Coleman.

"I hope it gives people struggling (to find) something to do a way to keep busy, to keep them occupied," Coleman told the Ludington Daily News.

This will be his second online workshop. Coleman said the first one in mid-December was well-received.

Supply kits for the workshop will be available at LACA. When people register for the workshop online, they can pick up the box from the art center or request that it be shipped to their homes.

The kits include a piece of reclaimed wood, several primary paint colors, one custom color such as silver or gold, and bonding primer so the paint will stick. There is also the option to request brushes and additional paint.

Hannah Hubbard / Ludington Daily News via AP

Mike Coleman's "chaotic fish" are displayed at Q Smokehouse during a pop-up gallery event. Coleman has painted more than 140 fish during the pandemic, and people will have a chance to make their own during an upcoming virtual workshop on Wednesday, Jan. 20.

Coleman is passionate about reusing materials so they don't end up in landfills. The wood that will be used for the workshop came from the Brill Company in Ludington.

There will also be templates for those who are not yet comfortable painting free-hand.

"If you are not super creative, then you can use those," Coleman explained. "It's like paint-by-numbers. You can cut out the template, trace it, then fill it in so it looks similar to one of mine."

With the kit comes a link to a video with instructions for prepping the wood, including painting backgrounds for the fish.

"There are also tips and pointers about composition, shading and mixing colors," Coleman said. "That gives the patron something to do right away when they get their box."

The live session on Jan. 20 will take place on Google Meet with Coleman hosting from his studio at LACA.

Coleman sets up his phone on a tripod to show the table he is working on and keeps his laptop nearby to answer questions that come into the chat during the live video.

"They're painting while I'm painting," he said. "They follow along, and I give plenty of time to work on it."

During the previous workshop, he was able to address concerns about specific parts people had trouble with.

"It worked really well last time," he said. "People were able to say they were struggling with the eye (and ask) what they should do, and I was able to explain and guide them through that process."

Coleman regularly teaches workshops at LACA. He didn't known what to expect the first time he did it online.

"I've had practice with doing paint-alongs on YouTube before that were not a paid class... I just described my process," he said. "This is more of an experience where you are getting instruction and are able to ask questions and get help. That's why there is more value to it than just a YouTube video."

His first workshop had six people and he is expecting more this next class. He's been posting teasers on social media and received several responses.

"I never really know what to expect, though," he said.

While he prefers teaching in-person, he said during these challenging times he's figuring it out like the rest of the world.

"It's kind of exciting, too. I can reach people who aren't in the immediate area, and it opens up different avenues," he said. "When you are doing in-person classes, you are limiting yourself to the immediate population, but once you're online... now you're reaching a much broader audience."

And he's ready to keep doing it online for the foreseeable future.

"I'd like to see it evolve," he said. "There are some people who need the instruction to really build their confidence before they strike out on their own. Some people, they are consistent subscribers and it's become a hangout, like a book club or painting club."

He said the participants were happy with the class and excited about their creations. There was one person who was not satisfied with their end-result, but Coleman said he reached out to that person later.

"Through messaging, I was able to give her a couple extra tips to finish it once it dried," he said. "Part of the problem when you teach a class is when you do a start-to-finish piece, there's the pressure of getting it done in that timeframe. Sometimes, especially when you make a mistake, you need the paint to fully dry. When it dries, you can cover over it and fix the mistakes. It was good to have that open lane of conversation."

During the pandemic, people have turned to activities such as painting for a creative outlet. Coleman said people are using what they have around their houses as sources of entertainment.

"They are looking through what they have for supplies. I've even heard baseball card collecting is making a comeback," he said.

"It's cool because in a way it's bringing back those hobbies, and art is a great option to express yourself, to cope with depression and sadness. I think it's been good for a lot of people."

hp FOCUS

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4 tips for overcoming the winter blahs

We're now more than two weeks into 2021, which means we've finally hit that dreaded time of the year: the winter blahs.

Andy Steinke

The joy and happiness that (usually) surrounds the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays – and helps get us through early wintertime – is in the rearview mirror. The only thing we have left to look forward to is endless months of cold, snow, sleet and headless, melting snowmen (way to cheer everyone up, Andy).

Maybe you're one of the lucky Southwest Michiganders who has a winter home in a sunny locale. But maybe you're like me (I didn't win the Mega Millions jackpot either), and some form of seasonal affective disorder is on the books for the next few months.

My wife, who grew up on a farm like I did, likes to say she's "sun-powered." So when the sun goes down at 5:30 p.m., it can be hard to find the motivation to do anything after dinner.

I, too, am a fan of the sun (in moderation), but I look at my winter days from a different point of view. Starting Dec. 22, I just tell myself, "OK, today is a little longer than yesterday. And tomorrow will be a little longer than today."

Each day, we have a little more sunlight (when it breaks through the permacloud, anyway), and we are one small step closer to spring. In my head, if I can get to March, I can make it through the winter, because March is basically spring.

It's not, really. It's still cold and dark and rainy. But by March I can usually get outside again and start doing yardwork, so I can trick my brain into thinking it's spring while I watch the flowers peek through the dirt.

Living in the Midwest my whole life, I've gotten pretty good at tricking myself. But maybe my trick won't work for you. So I've come up with a few other ideas to help you get through the winter blahs.

Get something you enjoy doing on your calendar. It seems simple, but having something to look forward to can help. Just think of all those work days you've made it through with the promise of vacation on the other side.

No, winters aren't the busiest time for entertainment (especially during a pandemic), but things are still going on. The Mendel Center has virtual presentations lined up through National Geographic, Twin City Players is hosting another online trivia night, and the Magical Ice Fest is still planned.

And those are just three options. Check our weekly entertainment calendar every Friday for more ideas. With more COVID vaccines on the way, venues are already booking events for 2021, trust me.

Go toward the light. If you're one of those people who needs sunlight to feel like yourself, try buying some. No, not a plane ticket to Florida. Buy a therapy lamp.

Light therapy is one way to help treat seasonal affective disorder, according to Mayo Clinic. Light therapy is thought to affect brain chemicals linked to mood and sleep.

See **STEINKE**, page C2

Ellen Creager / Detroit Free Press

Snowmobilers glide up a trail near Cadillac in 2009.

'WARMER, FASTER'

Michigan winters, as generations have known them, may be coming to an end

By KEITH MATHENY
Detroit Free Press

DETROIT — Karl Schwartz wishes he was simply chasing glory on the snowmobile racing track. Instead, in recent years, he has been forced to chase increasingly elusive cold weather.

Schwartz, of Freeland, Mich., is president of the Midwest International Racing Association, a snowmobile racing circuit operating primarily in Michigan for more than 40 years. Their weekend races draw about 100 teams, hundreds of racers and crew members, and thousands more fans, usually as part of a local community's winter festival.

But each year, as Michigan's climate changes, it's getting harder to do.

"We race on ice, not snow," he said. "We don't need snow – we need cold temperatures."

The racers often compete on fairground horse tracks, flooded with hundreds of thousands of gallons of water to try to build a base of frozen ground that the racers' machines will chew up over a weekend of competition. They need about two weeks of temperatures in the teens to create the proper conditions.

With increasing frequency, that's becoming near-impossible to find, Schwartz said.

"In spite of our best efforts to move our calendar around, and water these race tracks weeks in advance, we're still having to move dates, cancel dates and race in less than perfect conditions because of the warm weather," he said.

"This has been a consistent problem for us, especially the past few years. It's been going on longer than that, but especially the past five years, it's been really, really problematic."

The racing association's board has held meetings in recent years to talk about what it can do, including moving more races farther north.

"(But) we're already at Sault Ste. Marie," in the eastern Upper Peninsula at the Canadian border, Schwartz said. "Two races there, and they can't even get cold enough. Our race at Ironwood (in the far western U.P.) had problems, too.

"When you can't get ice at the Canadian border, how much farther north can you go?"

Eric Seals / Detroit Free Press

Snowmobile racers compete on the oval track during the Midwest International Racing Association FireRite 250 at the Alcona County Recreation Area in Lincoln, Mich., on Feb. 22, 2020. With the warm weather during most of the winter the track was much slower as the snowmobiles had to race through the slush when they prefer and go much faster on packed snow and ice.

Michigan's cold, snowy winters, and a way of life built around them, are being disrupted by climate change. And for winter festivals reliant on cold, snow and ice – and communities reliant on the economic boost at a slow time that those festivals bring – it's causing some scrambling to adapt, and even to survive.

The Great Lakes region has seen a larger increase in annual average temperatures than the rest of the continental U.S. And "winters are getting warmer more quickly than the summers are," said Richard Rood, a professor in climate and space sciences and engineering at the University of Michigan.

"The planet overall is warming, but states like Wisconsin, Michigan and Illinois are getting warmer, faster," said Don Wuebbles, a professor in the Department of Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Illinois.

Snowfall in the Great Lakes Basin decreased 2.25 percent from 1984 to 2013 as compared with 1954 to 1983. Researchers project snowfall could decline by almost 48 percent by 2080 under a business-as-usual scenario without reduced human carbon emissions.

But even under a more optimistic scenario, where greenhouse gas emissions are significantly curtailed, winter snowfall in the Great Lakes Basin is expected to decline by more than 28 percent by 2080.

The number of days where the low temperature dips below 32 degrees in the Great Lakes region is projected by scientists to decrease by more than a month per year in the higher-emissions scenario, and by three weeks in the lower-emissions scenario. And days where the high temperature stays below freezing – the kind

See **WINTER**, page C2

Finding a stronger voice on racism

The other day, I was able to sit in, by Zoom of course, on the first of a series of frank discussions on racism. I welcomed the opportunity. It triggered some of the roots that led me to the field of aging.

Lynn Kellogg
Generations

The discussion pulled me back to the 1970s when I was mesmerized by Martin Luther King Jr. and the power of nonviolence. I'd missed a chance to hear him in person during high school, something I look back on with deep regret. In college he was gone, but his writings, and those of Gandhi, became my focus in a philosophy course.

My course of study shifted to human service. A small book of King's quotes sits on my desk for those moments of needed inspiration.

Work at the Area Agency on Aging focuses, in part, on eradication of ageism and a call to action to change attitude, policy and law to ensure all aging adults, meaning all of us, have the choices and support needed to maintain independence and dignity no matter what comes.

I've heard people say they don't get ageism, that it doesn't seem an issue. Prejudice can become so normative it feels invisible.

The World Health Organization calls ageism "the most socially acceptable prejudice in the world." Citing negative ripple effects across business, health care and public policy, the harm eventually touches everyone.

I had the advantage of hearing Maggie Kuhn speak. Born in 1905, she founded the Gray Panthers movement after being forced to retire from her job at the then-mandatory age of 65.

She championed accessibility in mass transit, safeguards for Social Security, Medicare and countless other issues.

Railing against negative stereotypes in the media, she testified before Congress that "old people are depicted as dependent, powerless, wrinkled babies."

In 1978, The World Almanac named her one of the 25 most influential women in the U.S. In 1986, four years before her death at age 90, the Gray Panthers succeeded in having Congress ban mandatory retirement ages for most jobs.

Kuhn also believed in intergenerational and community alliances to promote issues still of concern today: affordable housing, access to health care, racial equality and economic justice.

So what does that have to do with my group discussion on racism?

Listening to recent personal examples of racism made my perception of progress over the decades shrink. Action is needed.

Kuhn said, "Stand before the people you fear and speak your mind – even if your voice shakes."

King warned famously of "the appalling silence of the good people" when action is needed.

See **GENERATIONS**, page C2

PETS OF THE WEEK

Lulu, at left, and Marina are bonded sisters born in July. These shy, sweet girls hope for a quiet home with a loving adopter who will be patient, kind and offer lots of treats to help them settle in. Playful and fun-loving, they get along with other cats and may adjust to a mild-mannered dog. They are spayed, FeLV-FIV negative and current on shots. For more information, or to adopt them, contact Paws of Hope at information@pawsofhope.org or 340-0272.

America's 2 pandemics

Jim McConnell
Insights

There are really two pandemics raging in America.

The first pandemic is COVID-19. Millions of Americans have been infected, and hundreds of thousands have died.

The second pandemic is one of political hatred and division that is rampaging through our population.

We know how to deal with the first pandemic. It's a disease of the body. If we wear masks, wash our hands often, and socially distance, the killer virus can be thwarted in its drive to infect us.

The second virus, the virus of hatred, is much harder to defeat. It is an infection of the mind.

The two pandemics are similar.

The COVID-19 virus works by lodging itself in the cells of the body, and causing them to malfunction, which leads to illness and death. Those with preexisting conditions, such as diabetes, heart disease or obesity, are especially prone to being infected and dying.

The virus of hate works by lodging itself in the mind, and causing a disruption of the spirit, which can also lead to illness and death. Those with the preexisting condition of estrangement from Soul are much more likely to be infected and give themselves over to violence and destructive behavior.

Let me explain. As far as we know, humans are unique in that we are the only creatures with two selves, the self that has been programmed into us by society, the Social Self, and the True Self or Soul Self, which is our true identity, that which we truly are.

The Social Self is the image we show to the world and ourselves. It's a complex of constructs conditioned into us by others and arranged by us to present a pleasing picture to ourselves and others.

The True Self, also called the Soul, has been knit together by the creative forces and is our connection to the whole of creation.

When the Social Self is estranged from, and cannot be informed by, the Soul, we suffer from inauthenticity, are generally unhappy, and are much more susceptible to contagions of the mind, such as the hatred and division that is virulent in our society right now.

Last week was a pretty terrible week for our country. Thousands of rioters stormed Capitol Hill in an attempt to change the results of the presidential election. Five people were killed and a sacred space was violated.

The death and destruction were the result of a mass infection of virulent hatred promoted by careless politicians and pundits. The big question is: How can we make ourselves immune to the kind of destructive hatred we saw at the Capitol?

Our religions offer us the answer. The spiritual practices of the great religions are a vaccine against the virus of hate.

The great religions have taught us that every one of us is unique. Each of us is a message from God to the world. It is our sacred task to deliver that message, to be our True Selves. We cannot do this when we follow the worn pathways that others have made. It's incumbent upon us to bring our unique selves into the world. In religious speak: to bring our lights out from under our bushels.

If you want to be safe from COVID-19, wear a mask, wash your hands, socially distance and get vaccinated.

If you want to be safe from hatred and other contagions of the mind, be your True Self. Connect with your Soul: pray, meditate, contemplate, demonstrate, study, write a poem, dance a holy dance, immerse yourself in nature, work for peace and justice, or practice loving kindness. Do whatever it takes to connect to your Soul.

Today's Insights was written by the Rev. Jim McConnell, pastor of Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in St. Joseph. Insights is written by area clergy to give different viewpoints on a variety of topics. It is published each Saturday in cooperation with the Berrien County Association of Churches. The views expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect the views of member churches.

GENERATIONS

From page C1

I'm fortunate to be part of a group to help find a stronger voice on racism.

Are you not sure what to do? Monday is a national holiday – Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Join the celebration going on Monday through Friday. Be inspired all week as The Mendel Center offers "Now is the Time: the MLK Celebration Week."

Events will feature artist reflections, performances, roundtable discussions, speakers, historic and local trivia contests and more. It's a great opportunity, and it's all virtual and free. Visit www.lakemichigancollege.edu/community/mlk for more information.

"We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability," King said. "Let us ... continue our triumphal march to the realization of the America dream ... for all of us today, the battle is in our hands."

Lynn Kellogg is CEO of Region IV Area Agency on Aging in Southwest Michigan. Questions on age or independence services? Call the Info-Line for Aging & Disability at 800-654-2810 or visit www.areaagencyonaging.org. The Generations column appears each Saturday in The Herald-Palladium.

WINTER

From page C1

of consistently cold winter days needed for activities such as snowmobiling, ice fishing, cross-country skiing and more – are projected to decrease by 56 days a year under higher carbon emissions, and by 31 days under lower emissions.

Michigan winters, as generations have known them and relied upon them, appear to be coming to an end. Cold snaps and heavy lake-effect snow will still happen, but happen in less and less frequent bursts over time.

"While in certain regions it's still snowing a lot, how it's behaving once it is on the ground is quite a bit different," Rood said. "It's not lasting as long, and it gets sloppy as rain falls on it.

"It doesn't have to be that much warmer that you get lake-effect rain rather than lake-effect snow."

By the end of the century, under a scenario of continued high carbon emissions, scientists project that Michigan's annual average temperature could increase by 9 or 10 degrees, Wuebbles said.

"That's a much, much different climate," he said. "For comparison, the last Ice Age, which brought ice 2 miles thick here, the temperature was 11 degrees cooler than today."

Winter Fest canceled, again

Michigan's winter festivals face a different challenge this year – the COVID-19 pandemic. But over recent years, disruption has come from a lack of traditional winter conditions.

The Caro Winter Fest, in the Thumb region of Michigan's Lower Peninsula, canceled events for the second straight winter in January. The festival is built around the Midwest International Racing Association's snowmobile races.

"The past few years, the temperatures have not cooperated whatsoever before the event," said Kris Reinelt, Caro Winter Fest board president.

Festival staff usually begin flooding the Tuscola County Fairgrounds to build ice layers for the snowmobile racing track after the holidays, in preparation for the Winter Fest races, usually held around the third weekend of January.

"We need at least a week of consistent, low temperatures," Reinelt said. "We would be able to build up 1 or 2 inches of ice a night, but then in the daytime, it would warm up and take it away. We have to pay for the water, we have to pay for the time. It doesn't become cost-effective to fight that battle."

The lost festivals over back-to-back years, and threatened again in 2021 by the coronavirus, cause a painful economic hit for the community.

"The racing teams bring in 300 people just among the racers, their families and friends who follow them," Reinelt said. "In Caro, we draw another 3,000 people. Those are 3,300 people who may never come to Caro, and they are coming in the middle of winter, which is a slow time. That's so helpful to the hotels, restaurants, grocery stores."

At Tip-Up Town USA, Michigan's longest-running winter festival, established in 1953 and built around ice fishing on Houghton Lake, nearly a dozen people fell through the ice last January, their snowmobiles, four-wheelers and other vehicles breaking through thin ice that was open water less than a week earlier.

Eric Seals / Detroit Free Press

Puddles of water could be found all over the infield section during the Midwest International Racing Association FireRite 250 at the Alcona County Recreation Area in Lincoln, Mich. on Feb. 22, 2020.

The Kalkaska Winterfest, in the northern Lower Michigan, features one of the Midwest's largest dog-sledding sprint races, going back to 1965 – longer-running than the famed Iditarod in Alaska.

In 2017, the races scheduled for January were postponed until the first week of March because of a lack of wintry conditions. When it was more of the same in March, the races were canceled.

In 2018, the races were postponed in January, then canceled in February. The next year, the January dates were again moved to February, when the latter half of the racing schedule that weekend was canceled because "everything had just melted," said Shannon Moore, a race marshal and board secretary for the Winterfest.

"That was something I'd never seen at a dog race, ever," she said.

At the local hotel sponsoring the event and hosting race teams and their families, the All Season Resort, "they go from being completely booked to 5 percent occupancy when we cancel," Moore said.

Many of the dog-sledding teams come from out of state, as much as 10 hours away, and bring kennels and trucks, crews and families. Though 2020's races went off without a hitch in mid-February, the more races that get postponed, canceled or happen in poor conditions, the more worry that teams won't bother coming, Moore said.

"I think we'll have to keep aiming for February and hoping we get lucky," she said. "When we do it later in March, that's not going to work. And the January dates haven't been working, either."

Snowmobile sales plummet

Carl Gerstacker was a snowmobiling fanatic.

"From the mid-'90s until about '05-'06, there was a solid 10 years where we put on just a ton of miles and had fun with it," he said.

But the pastime got more expensive. And the right conditions became harder to find.

"The winters are hit-or-miss now," he said. "We've had some really good winters, where the guys are up there (in northern Michigan) feasting on perfect conditions. But when you're making payments on a $15,000 machine, you need some consistency."

Gerstacker and his friends were "weekend warriors" – "get off work a little early on Friday, head north, spend the weekend riding the trails, head back home Sunday and go to work on Monday." But needing to go ever farther north to find the best, most consistent riding became a time-consuming, costly effort.

"If you're chasing snow into the U.P., that's not an option anymore," the Brighton-area resident said. "You're talking eight to 10 hours of driving to get up into the good snow and the best trails."

Gerstacker in recent years has changed out the sleds for a side-by-side, a four-wheeled recreational vehicle featuring two rows of seating that his wife and two children can enjoy with him.

"There's always dirt, there's not always snow," he said. "I'm watching my buddies making payments on these (snowmobiles), and they are going to ride two months this year. And these quick little shots Up North are expensive, too. I don't look back. I enjoy the side-by-side more than I ever did snowmobiling."

Gerstacker isn't alone in leaving snowmobiles behind. Snowmobile sales in the U.S. are down 70 percent from their 1997 peak, according to the International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association, a Haslett-based trade organization representing North America's four major snowmobile manufacturers: Arctic Cat, Ski-Doo/Bombardier, Polaris and Yamaha.

The Michigan Snowmobile Association, a Wyoming, Mich.-based nonprofit promoting and preserving the sport, also saw the changing reality. In May 2019, its board – over the protests of some sledding die-hards – voted to become the Michigan Snowmobile and ORV Association, adding off-road vehicles under its canopy.

"They are motorized, we are motorized, and very often we have the same goals and objectives," such as promoting trail access, said Karen Middendorp, the association's executive director.

Changing weather is unquestionably a factor in snowmobiling's decline, she said.

"You can't ride every weekend, especially for the downstaters," she said. "There's not enough snow."

Snowmobiling exploded in popularity in the mid-1990s to mid-2000s, bringing $321 million in sales, $187 million in income, and more than 6,000 jobs to Michigan's economy, according to a 1998 Michigan State University study. It was primarily driven by baby boomers who had reached a more comfortable point in their lives and had the disposable income to afford, and the time to enjoy, snowmobiling. But now that population cohort is waning in the sport, said Edward Klim, executive director of the snowmobile manufacturers association.

"We have started to really look at millennials and Generation X. Are they recreating in the snow? Are they riding snowmobiles?" he said. "How does the next generation want to recreate? Some people will buy an ATV or UTV (utility terrain vehicle) and use it nine or 10 months a year."

It's a reality snowmobile dealers have been forced to confront: change or die.

"The writing was on the wall 10-plus years ago," said Mike Nord, owner of Nord-Ride Motorsports in Mount Morris Township.

Around 2000, there were as many as 10 snowmobile dealerships in the greater Genesee County area. Nord's is now the only one left.

"There are two negative things against it: The cost of it now, and the weather," he said. "The dealers had to look at it and say, 'This isn't a good business decision any longer.'"

Nord has survived by diversifying his vehicles, adding ATVs, side-by-sides and more. But even that comes with risks.

"If you look at some of the dealers that have fallen by the wayside, they fell into this trap," he said. "You have to be able to accommodate (these diverse recreational vehicles), so you have to get bigger on your buildings, and that means bigger on your overheads. You finance that to increase the size of your building, and all of a sudden, we have an economic downturn. There is no Plan B."

In contrast, ski resorts have stayed relatively unscathed by warming weather because of their ability to make snow, said Amy Reents, executive director of the Midwest Ski Areas Association based in Hastings, Minn., a nonprofit trade group promoting skiing and ski resort interests in Michigan and surrounding states.

"We're not growing by leaps and bounds, but there haven't been any great falloffs," she said.

During a few days of cold weather, a ski resort can lay down several feet of manufactured snow, she said. It's then packed and groomed and provides a base with its own refrigeration.

"They can withstand several days in the 40s – it will do much better than the snow in your front yard," Reents said. "The changes in snow-making technology over the years have made it so much easier to make snow in warmer temperatures. If anything has changed for the ski industry, it's that (resorts) have decided that capital investing in snow-making technology is hugely important."

Adaptation is essential

Adaptation and diversification will become increasingly essential for Michigan's winter festivals to continue and thrive. Many have already figured that out.

From long-ago years where many of Tip-Up Town USA's events were held on the thick ice of Houghton Lake, the festival now largely operates under large tents on the shore, featuring family fun, food, music and merchants, said Jay Jacobs, executive director of the Houghton Lake Chamber of Commerce and a lead organizer of the festival.

Tip-Up Town typically draws about 10,000 visitors over its two weekends of events at the end of January.

"It's very essential to us," he said. "We rely on tourism – we don't have an industrial park; Houghton Lake doesn't have a defined downtown, a hospital, a university. These two weekends in the winter are a nice little shot in the arm for the community."

But even with diverse events not reliant on snow, ice or cold, a psychological deterrent can keep potential festival-goers home when it's warm out.

"It does affect the number of people who show up," said Jacobs. "We've had a few years where it's been rainy, and people just don't hang around."

The Caro Winter Fest is so intricately tied to snowmobile races, it can't happen without them right now, Reinelt said. She wants to ask residents how they feel about changing that, in the wake of the recent, weather-related cancellations.

"I want to do polls on our Facebook: Would you come out in the middle of winter to watch a chainsaw ice competition, a warming tent with live entertainment, and a beer and wine bar?" she said.

A larger adaptation is needed, Rood said: a reduction in human-caused carbon emissions that are fueling climate change.

"These big changes should be major motivators to take on that carbon dioxide reduction problem," he said.

STEINKE

From page C1

And it's easy. All you have to do is sit next to your light lamp while you continue to work from home.

Start a new hobby. If the pandemic lockdown wasn't enough of an incentive for you to engage your brain with new activities, maybe being stuck indoors for winter will be.

Personally, I enjoy working with wood. I'll build things occasionally, but I'm a big proponent of rescuing neglected wooden furniture. If it's made of solid wood and it's in need of help, I'll probably try to save it.

My dining room table, side table, office chair and living room lamp are all reclamation efforts. All they needed were time, and who doesn't have time in the winter?

Exercise. Is it fun? Not always. But exercise has many health benefits, and January is always prime time to take advantage of deals on workout equipment and gym memberships.

According to the Mayo Clinic, exercise can help relieve stress and anxiety, which can increase SAD symptoms. And getting more fit can help lift your mood, too.

Any one of these could be just what the doctor ordered. Or, tackle them all, and it'll be spring before you know it.

Andy Steinke is features editor at The Herald-Palladium. Email him at asteinke@TheHP.com, or follow him on Twitter @Decoding Dadhood.

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Impeachment is the path to unity

E.J. Dionne

Two things are essential for our nation: We must move beyond the vicious, mendacious and anti-democratic presidency of Donald Trump. And Republicans must recognize both the fact of his electoral defeat and his role in inspiring insurrection against our nation's system of free government.

This is why Democrats in the House of Representatives were right to force the issue of impeachment after Trump's instigation of an attack on the nation's Capitol, and the democratic process itself, whose extreme violence becomes ever clearer as more video from the assault emerges. The impeachment measure passed 232-197, with 10 Republicans joining all Democrats.

Underlying the impeachment debate was a struggle over what steps are required to bring the nation together.

The solutions endorsed by most Republicans? Amnesia, evasion and denial.

Amnesia about their own party's role in encouraging Trump for four years. Evasion of the party's complicity in advancing Trump's dangerous falsehood that President-elect Joe Biden stole an election that the Democrat won decisively. And denial of their own responsibility, outlined eloquently by Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, during the debate over electoral college votes, to tell their own supporters the truth about the election's outcome, and about Trump himself.

There is a school of thought – it has subscribers beyond the Republican duck-and-cover crowd – that impeaching Trump would get in the way of Biden's effort to launch his presidency in a brisk and unifying way.

Republicans latched onto this argument Wednesday. In opposing impeachment, few of them tried to defend Trump. They just sought excuses to vote with him one last time. Thus, many who last week were willing to rip the nation apart by voting to challenge Biden's victory were suddenly apostles of St. Francis of Assisi. Warm togetherness, they insisted, was their only purpose.

"Let us look forward, not backward," Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., said on the House floor during the debate. "Let us come together, not apart. Let us celebrate the peaceful transition of power to a new president, rather than impeaching an old president."

That sounds lovely until you recognize a hard lesson from history: After a deeply divisive struggle, there can be no durable unity if one side continues to propagate myths, if those who have ripped a nation apart refuse to acknowledge their role in deepening its schisms, if crimes committed are swept under a rug woven from the threads of politically convenient forgetfulness.

The effort to create a new order of racial justice in the South after our Civil War was thwarted for nearly a century because of myths spun by Confederates who cast a war for slavery as a noble lost cause and Reconstruction, an effort to democratize an unjust society, as oppressive. The Weimar Republic, Germany's noble democratic experiment, failed because large parts of the country's political elite refused to acknowledge its own failures in World War I and never accepted the new regime.

In our time, the United States will move forward only if Trump's radical attacks on democracy itself are recognized and condemned, only if his false claims are repudiated by his own party, only if every form of false equivalence aimed at diminishing or relativizing Trump's shameful behavior is thoroughly and completely discredited.

It fell to a brave Republican, Rep. Liz Cheney of Wyoming, to offer her party a better path. Her eloquent case for impeachment on Tuesday was cited again and again by Democrats.

"The President of the United States summoned this mob, assembled the mob, and lit the flame of this attack. Everything that followed was his doing. None of this would have happened without the President," Cheney wrote. "There has never been a greater betrayal by a President of the United States of his office and his oath to the Constitution."

Thus did the No. 3 House Republican stand up even as Republican Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, one of Trump's most servile defenders, urged the House to "resist the temptations of further polarization." But guess what? It took this fight and this outrage to get McCarthy (Calif.), finally, to acknowledge that Biden won the election legitimately. The polarizers only oppose polarization when their bluff is being called.

"You know," said Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass., "what happened would never have happened if everybody stood up in unity and called out the president when he was not telling the American people the truth, when he was pushing a big lie. We will never have unity without truth, and also without accountability."

Last Sunday on CBS's "Face the Nation," Sen. Chris Coons, D-Del., who is one of the most conciliatory members of either party, spoke as the former Divinity School student he was once was. "There can only be reconciliation," he said, "with repentance."

And as McGovern suggested, the road to repentance will be paved by truth and accountability.

We can be thankful that the 10 House Republicans who voted for impeachment took the first steps.

E.J. Dionne is a columnist for The Washington Post.

Parler's lawsuit is destined to fail

Jonah Goldberg

I have never been a free speech absolutist. I am, however, somewhat closer to being a First Amendment absolutist.

Many free speech absolutists don't like this distinction because they think the First Amendment should guarantee the ability to express yourself in virtually any manner you like, in any setting. But that's simply not what it says. The First Amendment, like the rest of the Bill of Rights, constrains what the federal government can do. That's why it says, "Congress shall make no law ... abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press."

The government can't police your speech. The exception to this, worked out in the courts and by statute, is that you can't incite violence. Under the Supreme Court's Brandenburg v. Ohio decision, you can even tell an armed crowd that violence is necessary. What you can't do is advocate "imminent lawless action" with speech that "is likely to incite or produce such action."

"We need to shoot all left-handed people" is OK. "Look, over there: That guy is writing with his left hand! Shoot him now before he gets away!" not so much.

This is a radically libertarian approach to expression. The U.K., which has a robust tradition of free speech, doesn't come close to this. Under the British Human Rights Act 1998, "Everyone has the right to freedom of expression." But the law also says such freedom "may be subject to formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society."

That's not the American way.

It is a standard – and correct, in my opinion – talking point among many social conservatives to note that the founders believed our system could only work with a virtuous people. "Virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government," George Washington observed. Benjamin Franklin declared: "Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom." James Madison stated: "To suppose that any form of government will secure liberty or happiness without any virtue in the people is a chimerical idea."

Usually, conservatives invoke such observations during debates about religion, culture and the importance of good character. "There is no liberty," the 19th century minister Henry Ward Beecher insisted, "to men who know not how to govern themselves."

This principle has more bearing on free speech than many realize. You may have the right to shout racial epithets or call for violence, that doesn't mean you should. Private institutions, and even some public ones, can and should discourage such behavior. Schools, churches, the Boy Scouts, even book clubs have a right (and obligation) to say, "Knock it off," or, "Not here." That's the First Amendment, too. You have no right to hang a Confederate flag on my house.

The way we encourage good character is by letting the nongovernmental institutions of civil society police bad behavior. So while you have the right to advocate race war and insurrection, you don't have the right to do it at a Wendy's if the management doesn't approve.

The social media platform Parler was launched by right-wingers angry at Twitter and Facebook for policing speech on their sites. After the storming of the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, Amazon Web Services (AWS) notified Parler that it was removing the site from its cloud hosting service. Parler is suing.

Amazon claims, very plausibly, that Parler was being used by jackasses to foment violence and hatred. Here are a few examples from Amazon's court filing: "We are going to fight in a civil War on Jan. 20th, Form MILITIAS now and acquire targets." ... "Shoot the police that protect these s---bag senators right in the head then make the senator grovel a bit before capping they a--." ... "White people need to ignite their racial identity and rain down suffering and death like a hurricane upon zionists."

According to Amazon's contract, AWS clients can't host speech that "violate(s) the rights of others, or that may be harmful to others." Parler claims it tried to restrict such speech. That remains disputed. But whether or not it tried, Amazon says Parler was simply unable to do it, particularly as evidenced by the massive backlog of flagged posts in the wake of the Jan. 6 siege.

I don't care if the posts fall short of the Brandenburg standard, because Amazon isn't the government. Under the First Amendment, Amazon is free to say, "We want no part of this." If a diner can say, "No shirt, no shoes, no service," Amazon can say, "No calls for civil war or genocide."

Jonah Goldberg is editor-in-chief of The Dispatch and the host of The Remnant podcast.

LETTERS

Upton deserves respect for impeachment vote

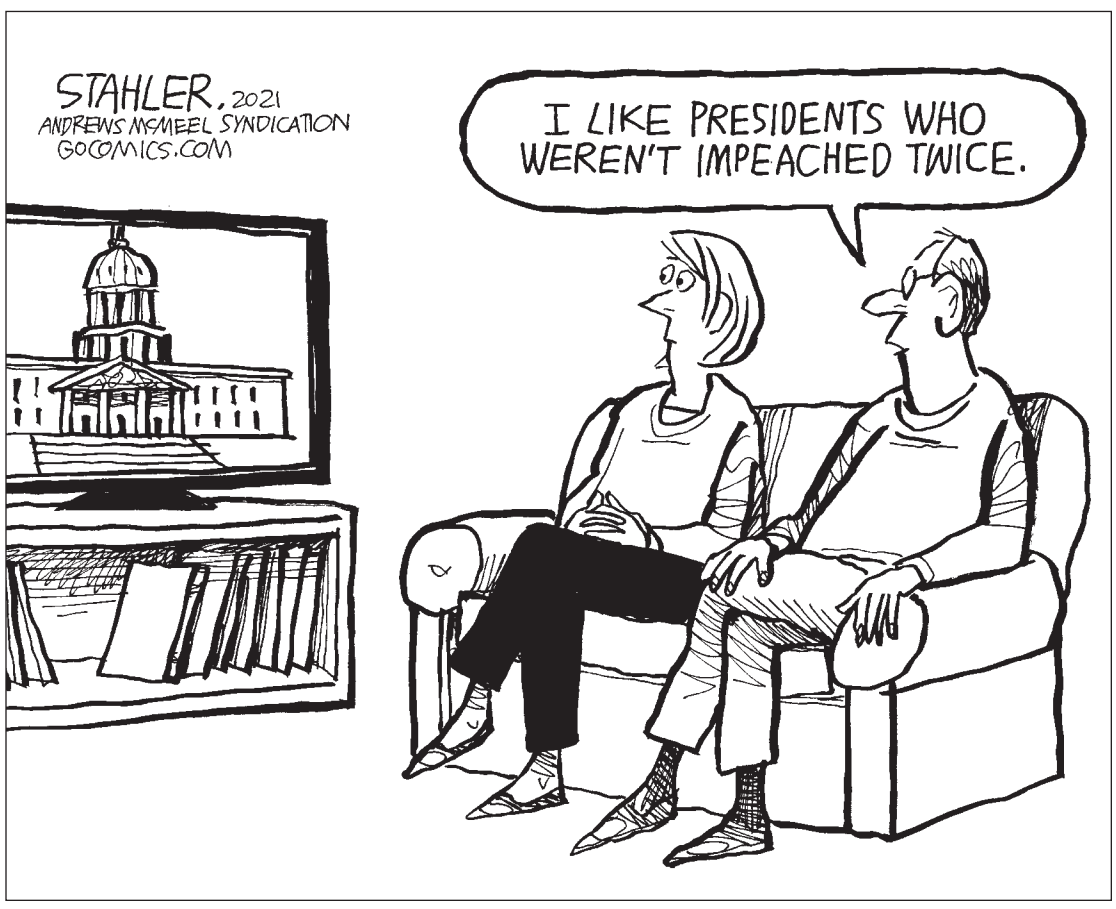
Editor,

In past letters, I have been critical of Congressman Fred Upton because of his support of President Trump. On Jan. 13, Mr. Upton restored my respect for him and took a stand by voting to impeach Mr. Trump. This is the person that I voted for in every one of his elections since 1986, except for the last three.

This is the Fred Upton who once walked on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, alongside John Lewis, to commemorate the anniversary of Bloody Sunday; this is the congressman who was able and willing to work with Democratic colleagues for the good of our country; this is more like the man I first met when I was an MEA PAC leader and our committee supported him in 1986 in the primary when he defeated Mark Siljander.

Thank you, Mr. Upton, for standing up for what's honorable and right.

John Jarpe
Niles



There's still plenty McConnell can do to obstruct Biden

Doyle McManus

Last week's Senate elections in Georgia – yes, it was only last week – qualified as life-changing news for President-elect Joe Biden, who knew that if the chamber remained in Republican hands his ambitious agenda would be brought to a standstill.

But Biden still faces an obstacle – and it's still the hard-to-control U.S. Senate.

Republicans no longer have a majority, and in the 50-50 Senate, Vice President-to-be Kamala Harris will be able to cast tie-breaking votes. But don't expect harmony. Democrats are a fractious lot, and expecting them to walk lockstep is like expecting Donald Trump to apologize: It's not going to happen.

Democratic leader Charles E. Schumer of New York will run the place instead of Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, and the two men are already discussing a bipartisan agreement on committee budgets and procedures. It will probably be called a "power-sharing deal," but that will be an overstatement; Schumer will control the agenda.

That doesn't mean, however, that the minority leader won't try to gum up the works – and in a Senate this close, he'll have enormous power to do so.

"There's no guarantee that Chuck Schumer will get anything done if he doesn't get the cooperation of Mitch McConnell," former Democratic leader Tom Daschle told me.

On some issues, Schumer should have little problem. With 50 votes plus Harris, Biden's Cabinet nominations should be easy to confirm fairly quickly; judicial nominations too.

With 50 votes, Democrats will also be able to pass a budget bill, through the process known as reconciliation. They'll do their best to pack the measure with anything that can be described as budgetary: an economic stimulus package, a modest expansion of Obamacare, tax hikes on the wealthy.

But most of Biden's other priorities will need 60 votes to move ahead. That includes a new Voting Rights Act, immigration reform and a $15 minimum wage.

And he'll still face McConnell, the implacable obstructionist who battled then-President Barack Obama to a standstill in 2009 when Democrats held a much larger, purportedly "filibuster-proof" majority of 60 seats.

Back then, McConnell spurned Obama's appeals to compromise and made sure other Republicans did too. He believed his party's route to power lay in opposing the Democratic president at every turn.

And he succeeded. Republicans won a majority in the House of Representatives in 2010, a majority in the Senate in 2014 and the White House in 2016.

So there's every reason to expect McConnell to try the same gambit again.

But two elements are different now.

A 50-50 Senate is inherently unstable. It gives every senator a chance to create an instant majority by voting with the other side. If Joe Manchin of West Virginia, who calls himself a conservative Democrat, refuses to vote for a bill he considers too expensive, most of his home state voters will applaud.

Manchin isn't the only wild card. Individual senators love the idea of individual senators holding the balance of power. A dozen relative moderates have been waiting for this moment: Democrats like Jon Tester of Montana and Kyrsten Sinema of Arizona, Republicans like Mitt Romney of Utah and Lisa Murkowski of Alaska.

"There are a lot of senators on both sides who are frustrated," Angus King, the independent senator from Maine, told me. "We go through hell to get here, and then we don't get anything done."

Then there's the Biden factor. The new president campaigned as a champion of bipartisan horse-trading. He claimed that his 36 years in the Senate gave him the fingertip skills and personal touch to make Congress work. He even promised, famously, that his election would move Republicans toward "an epiphany," a moment of revelation when they would abandon their partisan ways.

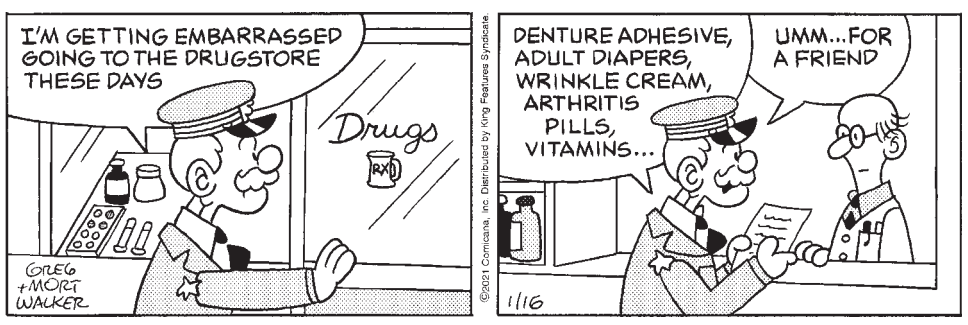
Now he has not only a chance but a duty to try to make that campaign promise come true. After Jan. 20, senators expect to get plenty of invitations to the White House – more than most saw from either Trump or Obama.

One more effect, perhaps the most important: A 50-50 Senate will pull Biden and his agenda toward the center. He can't risk losing the votes of moderates like Manchin, Tester or Sinema. And, being Biden, he'll be tempted to try his luck in wooing a few Republicans over to his side, disrupting McConnell's inevitable attempts at obstruction.

On those budgetary issues that can win with only 50 votes – an economic stimulus package and tax hikes – he may be able to satisfy his party's liberal core. But on health care, climate change and other priorities, progressive Democrats are likely to feel frustrated, abandoned, even betrayed. Especially since, as they will no doubt remind their new president, they hold a majority – remember?

Doyle McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

BEETLE BAILEY


I'M GETTING EMBARRASSED GOING TO THE DRUGSTORE THESE DAYS
Drugs
Rx
GREG + MORT WALKER
DENTURE ADHESIVE, ADULT DIAPERS, WRINKLE CREAM, ARTHRITIS PILLS, VITAMINS...
UMM...FOR A FRIEND
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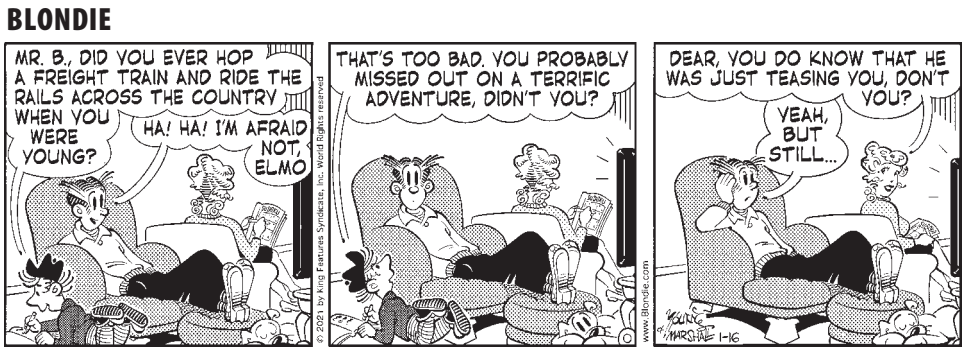
1/16

BLONDIE


MR. B., DID YOU EVER HOP A FREIGHT TRAIN AND RIDE THE RAILS ACROSS THE COUNTRY WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG?
HA! HA! I'M AFRAID NOT, ELMO
© 2021 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World Rights Reserved
THAT'S TOO BAD. YOU PROBABLY MISSED OUT ON A TERRIFIC ADVENTURE, DIDN'T YOU?
DEAR, YOU DO KNOW THAT HE WAS JUST TEASING YOU, DON'T YOU?
YEAH, BUT STILL...
YOUNG MARSHALL 1-16
www.Blondie.com

FAMILY CIRCUS

"You're not to dribble that indoors anymore!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"YEAH, THIS IS MY DAD'S BIKE. HE USES IT TO HANG HIS CLOTHES ON."

HI & LOIS

CHIP ISN'T UP YET?
LET HIM SLEEP. IT'S SATURDAY.
ERIC REARDON
1-16
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
BACK TO BED. I HAD A ROUGH WEEK TOO.
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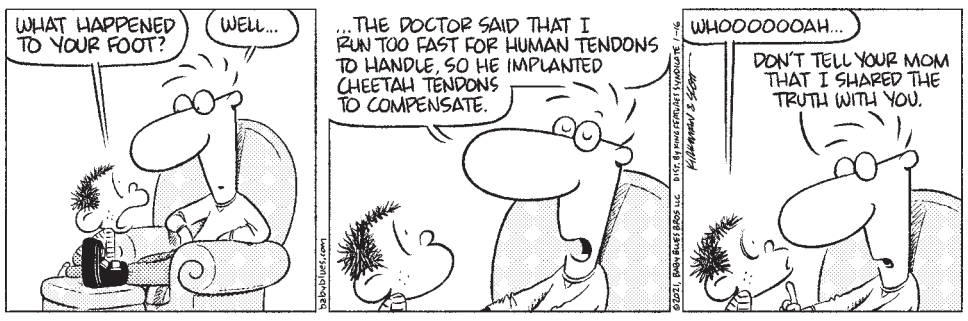
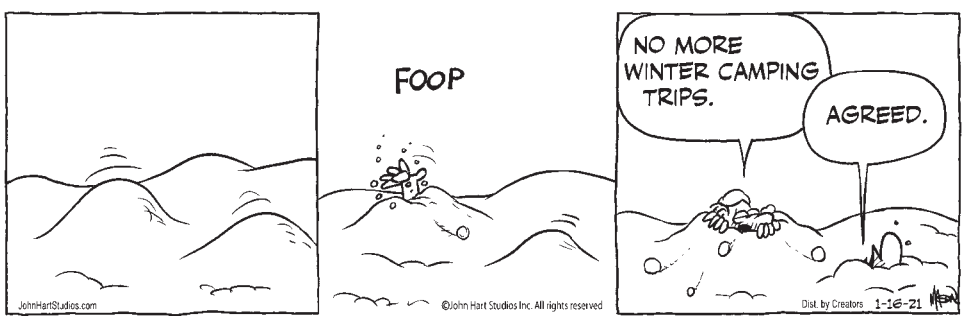
HiandLois.com

BABY BLUES


WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FOOT?
WELL...
...THE DOCTOR SAID THAT I RUN TOO FAST FOR HUMAN TENDONS TO HANDLE, SO HE IMPLANTED CHEETAH TENDONS TO COMPENSATE.
babyblues.com
©2021, BABY BLUES BROS. LLC. DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE
WHOOOOOOAH...
DON'T TELL YOUR MOM THAT I SHARED THE TRUTH WITH YOU.

BC



CURTIS

ANOTHER MAJOR STORE FILES FOR BANKRUPTCY
YEAH, IF THE BIG BUSINESSES CAN'T STAY AFLOAT, WHAT CHANCE DOES A LITTLE BUSINESS HAVE
Distd by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved
CURTIS, WHAT'S WRONG?
SOUL SCISSORS CLOSED
1-16

WIZARD OF ID

ZITS

DILBERT

YOUR IDEA IS RIDICULOUS AND IT WILL NEVER WORK!
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
OH, WAIT... I JUST REALIZED THE REAL PROBLEM HERE IS THAT I'M A LOSER WHO DOESN'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO WIN.
1-16-21 © 2021 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel
THAT'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T SEE OFTEN.
OKAY, THE FEELING PASSED.

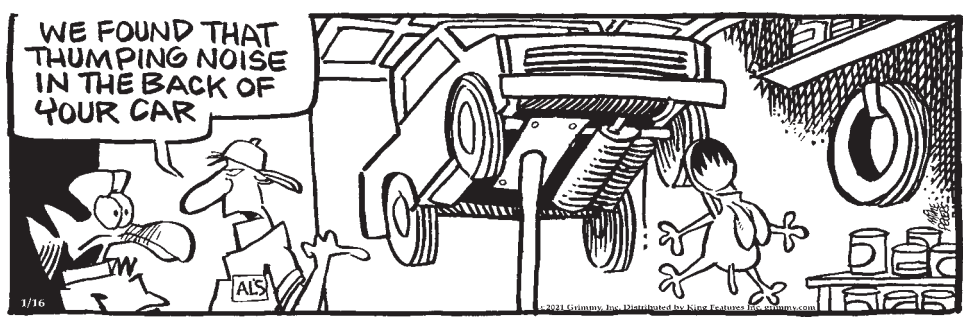
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

BROOME
WELL?
©2021 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
THIS IS A BETTER CAKE THAN MY MOTHER USED TO MAKE, I MUST SAY!
...MUSTN'T I?
1-16

GARFIELD

WHAT'S THE SECRET TO GREAT COFFEE? IS IT THE QUALITY OF THE BEANS?
© 2021 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
JIM DAVIS 1-16
NOPE
IT'S THE SIZE OF THE CUP!
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



FORT KNOX

BETTY BEAT UP KURT.
THAT'S AWESOME!
NOT REALLY, WES... THIS WILL PUT AN END TO OUR LIFE INSURANCE.
ARE YOU WORRIED?
NOT YET.
THAT'S GOOD.. WHEN WILL YOU START TO PANIC?
WHEN HE'S RELEASED FROM INTENSIVE CARE.
1/16
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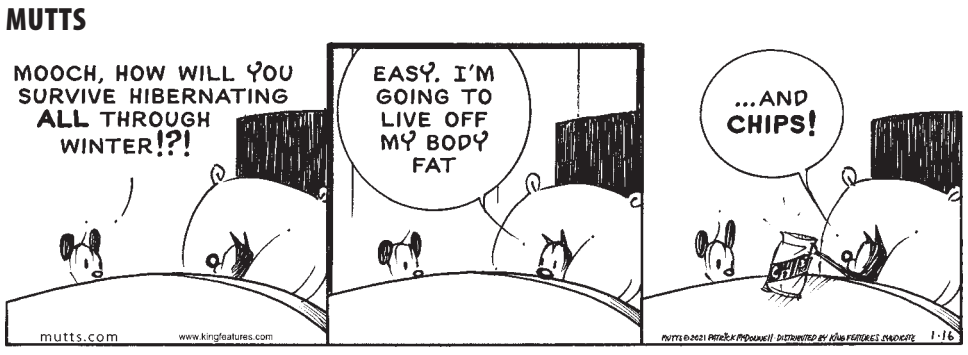
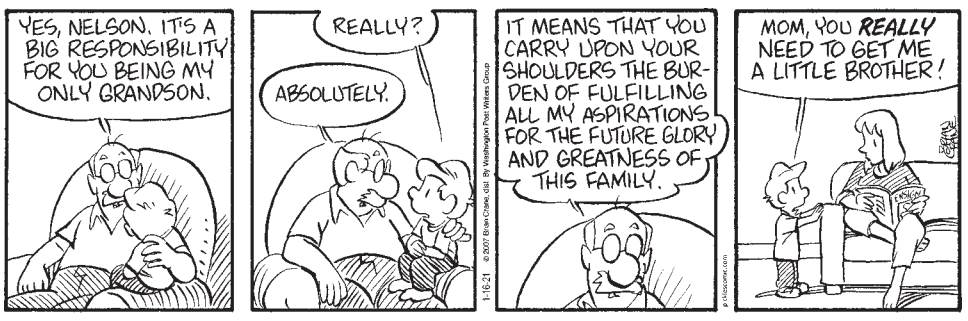
MUTTS



PICKLES


YES, NELSON. IT'S A BIG RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOU BEING MY ONLY GRANDSON.
REALLY?
ABSOLUTELY.
1-16-21
© 2007 Brian Crane, dist. By Washington Post Writers Group
IT MEANS THAT YOU CARRY UPON YOUR SHOULDERS THE BURDEN OF FULFILLING ALL MY ASPIRATIONS FOR THE FUTURE GLORY AND GREATNESS OF THIS FAMILY.
MOM, YOU REALLY NEED TO GET ME A LITTLE BROTHER!

SALLY FORTH

SO IT'S AGREED. EACH DAY, WE EACH MAKE SURE TO CARVE OUT TIME FOR OURSELVES. SO WE CAN HAVE OUR OWN SPACE IN OUR SHARED SPACE.
SOUNDS PERFECT!
KEEFE
1-16
©2021 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
SOOOO... I GUESS, I'LL HEAD THAT WAY THEN.
THAT'S THE LAUNDRY ROOM. LET'S BOTH HEAD THIS WAY AND THEN SPLIT UP.

Be a history explorer

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PRIME TIME TV

SATURDAY EVENING JAN. 16

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	Celebrity Wheel of Fortune		The Chase CC (DVS)		For Life "Collars for Dollars"	
CBS 2 3 22	The NFL Today (N)	NFL Football AFC Divisional Round: Teams TBA. (N) (L) CC					
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	Ellen's Game of Games CC		Dateline NBC (N) CC		Saturday Night Live (N) CC	
FOX 17 222 28 32	To Be Announced	The Masked Dancer CC (DVS)		Name That Tune "Episode 2"		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Lawrence Welk	As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	Antiques Roadshow CC		Frankie Drake Mysteries CC	
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Seinfeld CC	Seinfeld CC	News	To Be Announced
MNT 50	Graham Bensinger	Dateline A teen is killed during a party.		Dateline "Bad Blood" CC		Storm of Suspicion	
WCIU 26	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers
WHME 46	:00 Heartland	Heartland CC (DVS)		Murdoch Mysteries CC		Murdoch Mysteries CC	
WGN 9	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	WGN Weekend News at Nine (N)	
A&E	:00 Most Daring	Most Daring Birthday pyrotechnics. CC		Most Daring Wild women. CC		:01 Most Daring "Riots & Rumbles"	
AMC	Karate Kid II	★★ Caddyshack ('80, Comedy) Chevy Chase, Rodney Dangerfield. CC				★★★ Ferris Bueller's Day Off	
Animal	Pit Bulls	Pit Bulls-Parole		Pit Bulls and Parolees (N) CC			
BET	⋆ When the Bough Breaks			★★ Sleepless ('17) Jamie Foxx. CC			
Big Ten	TBA	To Be Announced				Campus	Drive
Bravo	Friday After	:13 ★★★ Friday ('95) Ice Cube. Buddies in South Central L.A. ponder repaying a dealer. CC					★★ Next Friday
Cartoon	Gumball	Final Sp.	American	American	American	Rick	Rick
Cinemax	Ready or Not ('19)	★★★ The Talented Mr. Ripley ('99, Crime Drama) Matt Damon, Gwyneth Paltrow, Jude Law. CC					Going in Style ('17)
CMT	⋆ Vegas Vacation		:45 ★★ National Lampoon's Vacation ('83) CC				
CNBC	Under. B.	Undercover		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss	
CNN	Situation	Situation Room		Situation Room		CNN Special Report	
Comedy	★★★ Forgetting Sarah Marshall ('08) CC					Wolf of Wall St	
Discovery	Undercover	Undercover Billionaire: Small Biz, Big Dreams Elaine lands on a million-dollar idea.				Undercover Billionaire: Comeback City	
Disney	Jessie	Jessie	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City
DIY	Maine	Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters	
E!	★★ 50 First Dates ('04) CC				:45 ★★ 50 First Dates		
ESPN	Basket	College Basketball Teams TBA. (N) (L)				College Basketball	
ESPN2	Basket	College Basketball Teams TBA. (N) (L)				College Basketball	
ESPNC	Football	College Football From Nov. 30, 1991.				College Football	
Food	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	Life	Watters' World (N)		Justice With Jeanine		Greg Gutfeld	
Fox Sports	Pistons	NBA Basketball Detroit Pistons at Miami Heat. (N)					Pistons
Freefrm	:25 ★★★ The Lion King ('94) Voices of Matthew Broderick, Jeremy Irons. CC				★★★ Ferdinand ('17) Voices of John Cena. (P).		
FX	Equalizer	★★ Venom ('18) Tom Hardy. A man gains superpowers when his body merges with an alien. CC					Widows
Golf	:00 PGA Tour Golf Sony Open in Hawaii, Third Round. (N) CC						Central
Hallmark	:00 Love in Winterland ('20, Romance) Italia Ricci. CC			Two for the Win ('21) Charlotte Sullivan, Trevor Donovan. (P). CC			
HBO	Hobbs & Shaw	★★★ Kill Bill: Vol. 1 ('03, Action) Uma Thurman, Lucy Liu. (P). CC				9:51 ★★★ Kill Bill: Vol. 2 ('04) CC	
History	Sniper	★★★★ Saving Private Ryan ('98, War) Tom Hanks. CC					
HGTV	Fixer to	Chateau		Fixer to Fabulous		Fixer to Fabulous	
Learning	My 600-	My 600-Lb. Life Thederick is housebound.				1000-Lb. Sisters (N)	
Lifetime	Kidnap-Paradis	The Evil Twin ('21, Suspense) Emily Piggford, Ish Morris. (P). CC				:03 Black Widow Killer ('18)	
MSNBC	Voices	Week-Johnson		Week-Johnson		The Way I See It	
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Short List	World Class Championship Boxing				Fight Sports MMA	
NFL	NFL GameDay High.	NFL Football Teams TBA. CC					
Nick	Danger	Danger	Hustle	Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Smuggler	To Catch a Smuggler		To Catch a Smuggler		To Catch a Smuggler	
Oxygen	:00 Monster Preacher (N)			One Deadly Mistake (Series (P)) (N)		Monster Preacher CC	
Parmt	5:30 ★★★★ The Godfather ('72, Drama) CC					Godfather II	
Showtime	Shameless	Resistance ('20, Biography) Jesse Eisenberg, Ed Harris. (P). CC				★★★ Dallas Buyers Club ('13)	
Starz	:16 ★★ Lara Croft: Tomb Raider ('01) Angelina Jolie. CC			American Gods "A Winter's Tale" CC		★★★ Dawn of the Dead ('04)	
STZENC	:06 ★★★★ Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid ('69)			★★★★ Glory ('89, War) Matthew Broderick, Denzel Washington. CC			
SyFy	6:35 ★ Death Wish ('18, Action) Bruce Willis. CC (DVS)			★ Gone in Sixty Seconds ('00, Action) Nicolas Cage, Angelina Jolie. CC			
TBS	:00 ★★ Uncle Drew ('18, Comedy) Kyrie Irving. CC (DVS)			★★ Central Intelligence ('16, Action) Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart. CC (DVS)			
TCM	Heat of Night	★★★★ The Searchers ('56, Western) John Wayne, Jeffrey Hunter. CC				:15 ★★★ Along Came Jones	
TMC	:05 ★★★ Hustlers ('19) Constance Wu, Julia Stiles. CC			★★★ Green Room ('15, Suspense) Anton Yelchin. CC			⋆ Sorority Row
TNT	:45 ★★ Ocean's 8 ('18) Sandra Bullock.					:15 ★ Blended	
Travel	Ghost	Ghost Nation CC		Ghost Nation (N)		Kindred Spirits (N)	
TV Land	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
USA	6:30 ★★ Meet the Fockers ('04) Robert De Niro.			★ Little Fockers ('10, Comedy) Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller. CC (DVS)			
VH1	Madea	★★ Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail ('09) CC					Madea's
WGN-A	:00 Blue Bloods	NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC	

Communication with college friend is a one-way street

DEAR ABBY: A friend of mine from college (I graduated four years ago) is incredibly kind but terrible at keeping in touch. She has never been good at responding to texts, but now that we no longer live in the same area, we don't communicate.

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

When she invited me to her wedding, I was surprised because when she got engaged, I reached out to congratulate her and asked for the story of the proposal, and she never responded. Her wedding reception was postponed because of COVID-19, but I watched the Zoom ceremony.

I knew it was hard on her, so I have reached out every month or so for the past four months to tell her I'm thinking of her, but she never replies. I mailed her a card for her wedding, which she also did not acknowledge. She sees my Instagram posts, and I'm connected with her sister and brother-in-law on social media, so I know no harm has come to her, and her cellphone is working.

I miss my friend, but I'm conflicted about whether I should RSVP "yes" to the postponed reception. Normally, I would assume silence means someone doesn't want to continue a friendship, but she invited me and a plus-one. Should I accept or reach out to a mutual friend to see what's going on? – Holding Onto Friendship

DEAR HOLDING: You stated that your friend has never been good at responding. The message she's sending through her extended silence is that you are no longer as important in her life as you were before. Your geographical separation may have something to do with it.

If you would like to attend her reception – when and if it is held – respond affirmatively to the invitation. However, if you do, do not expect to be acknowledged for your effort because those niceties are not in her makeup.

P.S. You can stop sending the "thinking of you" messages because they are not being appreciated in the manner you would like them to be.

DEAR ABBY: I have a child with autism. He's my world, and I love him deeply. Because he has special needs, I can't afford a babysitter, so my parents watch him all the time or I cancel whatever I need to do that day.

Because my parents are my only source of babysitting, they think they don't have to listen to me. If I tell them the time I give him his medication, so don't change it, they think he needs it earlier, and they know better than I do. I'm constantly second-guessed, and if they don't agree with my decisions, they go behind my back. If I buy my son a new toy and my dad doesn't like it, he screams at me and makes me feel 2 inches tall. He was an absent father, and my mother can't relinquish control of anything.

I'm at a loss on how to handle this because I know they want what's best for my child, but so do I. As his mother, shouldn't I be able to make that decision? – My Child In Illinois

DEAR MY CHILD: Yes, you should be able to make decisions regarding your son and expect that they will be respected. However, your parents have you over a barrel, and they know it. You do not have to tolerate it. I suggest you contact the Autism Society (autism-society.org). When you do, you will be connected with a local branch for guidance and options.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Kids want dad to stop emailing his high school girlfriend

Adapted from an online discussion.

DEAR CAROLYN: My 86-year-old father has had a two-year long email correspondence with his old high school girlfriend. He writes to her at least once a day, sometimes more.

Carolyn Hax

He shares information about us kids and his grandkids, which is none of her business, and says things that are a bit more than just friendly chatting.

He leaves his email open so I've read a few of them when I've been at their house for holidays. (I know, I know.)

The kicker is that he's been happily married to my mom for more than 60 years. My mom is starting to suffer from slight mental decline, and I think he is lonely. It feels like he is having an emotional affair with this woman.

My sisters and I are pretty irritated. We want him to knock off the emailing, or at the very least not talk about us kids. Is there anything we can do? – Dotard's Child

DEAR DOTARD'S CHILD: Yes. You can exercise the compassion to leave him alone.

I understand all of your hard feelings, I do. I feel for your mom especially, for the obvious reason of her longtime spouse's possibly wandering affections, but mostly since I think we can all agree she faces a terrifying prospect.

To be at the beginning of a mental decline process – and therefore probably lucid enough, often enough, to understand what's in store – is a heartbreak that probably can't be overstated.

I also understand your bristling at shared information about your family. But.

The stuff he's telling his long-ago girlfriend is stuff you wouldn't object to if he were talking to, say, his fishing buddy as they stood in a stream all day, right? Seriously. So let it go.

And, he's a bit into what will likely become the toughest and loneliest phase of his life – as he fails to get any younger himself.

So let him enjoy his person, his outlet, without any added guilt burden of his kids' disapproval.

You also don't have to see it as a betrayal of your mother, if you don't want to. This so-called "emotional affair" could be a mood-lifter for your father through the caregiving process that ultimately benefits your mom.

If you think it's important, then you can ask him to be more discreet and not leave his email open, which you should not! be! reading! Come on.

Online commenters' takes:

■ Surprising how many people think they get to demand that their parents be lonely and miserable as a loyalty test.

■ It's even possible the parental generation discussed how they'd feel about this sort of relationship in these circumstances at this point, and gave each other permission.

■ His wife of 60 years is slipping away due to an awful disease. Be glad your father has someone who is a contemporary, to share his fears, grief and anger with. If I were you, I'd encourage the relationship instead of trying to get him to stop. Unless, of course, you and your sibs are going to be there with him, offering loving support, and actual services.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

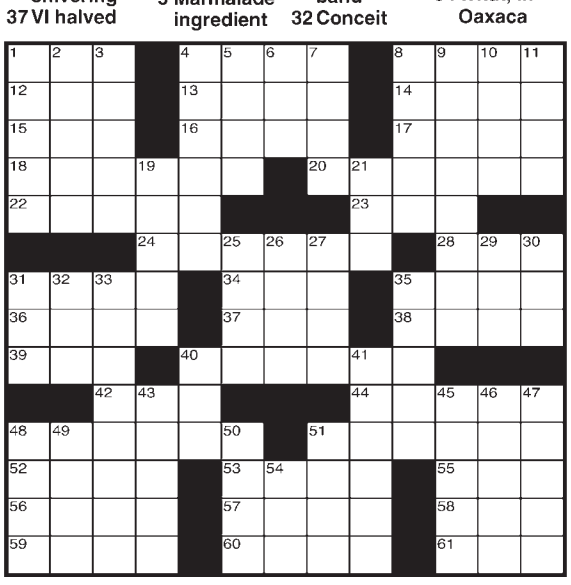
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Starfish part
4 Annoys
8 Insipid
12 Mild expletive
13 Breezy greeting
14 Like a hermit
15 Choose
16 "Orinoco Flow" singer
17 Radius companion
18 Go over again
20 Living room
22 Go — (cooperate)
23 Tire pressure meas.
24 Confidential
28 Gambler's kitty
31 Andes nation
34 Infield bounce
35 Fizzy drink
36 Fit of shivering
37 VI halved
38 Highest point
39 Like jalapenos
40 Bath powder
42 Possessed
44 Dynamite inventor
48 Most competent
51 One way to pay
52 Ogle
53 Soft color
55 Pound sound
56 — Arnaz
57 Incinerate
58 Even so
59 Cathedral part
60 Flower product
61 Dirty place

DOWN
1 Mall for Plato
2 Gross out
3 Subway in Paris
4 When mammoths roamed (2 wds.)
5 Marmalade ingredient
6 Jay successor
7 Detergent
8 Smudges
9 Kojak snack
10 Cato's year
11 Get wind of
19 Result
21 Suitable
25 "Wool" on clay sheep
26 Stir up
27 Cast-of-thousands movie
29 Tribute in verse
30 Price add-on
31 Oom- — band
32 Conceit
33 Without mercy
35 Pago Pago nation
40 Gridiron stats
41 Let loose
43 Hawk's lair
45 Makes like a mule
46 Wading bird
47 Portsider
48 Swit co-star
49 Horn sound
50 Indent keys
51 Make well
54 What, in Oaxaca

Answer to Previous Puzzle

G	A	W	K			W	A	R		A	R	N
E	A	R	N	S		A	N	A		W	O	O
M	A	Y	A	N		I	N	V	O	L	V	E
			V	E	S	T		E	A	S	E	L
	T	R	E	A	T		A	D	S			
F	O	E		K	E	E	L		E	D	A	M
I	N	C		Y	A	P	S		S	A	S	E
N	E	O	N		L	E	O	N		L	P	N
E	R	N	E		T	E	R	I		A	I	D
			H	U	H		A	N	T	I	C	
A	C	O	R	N		K	N	E	W			
R	E	P	U	L	S	E		T	E	A	C	H
A	D	E		I	O	N		Y	A	H	O	O
B	E	N		T	U	T			K	A	L	E



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JUMBLE

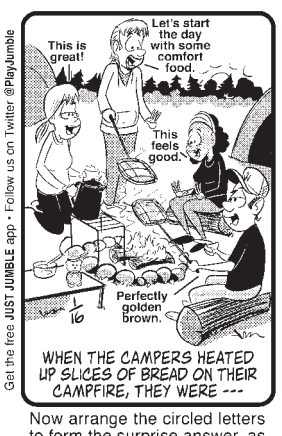
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DWRAA

SMURT

CYONPA

WTRRIE


This is great!
Let's start the day with some comfort food.
This feels good.
Perfectly golden brown.
WHEN THE CAMPERS HEATED UP SLICES OF BREAD ON THEIR CAMPFIRE, THEY WERE ---
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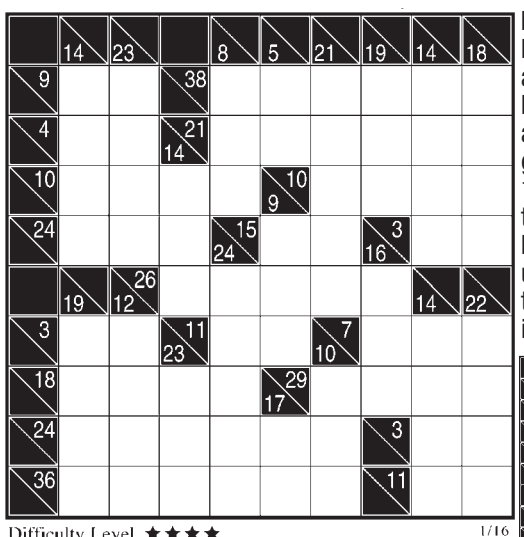
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

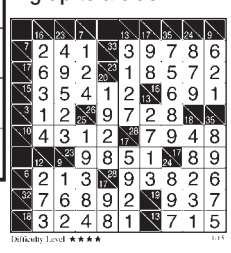
Yesterday's Jumbles: WAVER ENACT ISLAND TROUGH
Answer: When the hamster saw the cat getting too close, it — RATTLED HIS CAGE

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★★ 1/16

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



BRIDGE

Bertrand Russell claimed: "There are two motives for reading a book: one, that you enjoy it; the other, that you can boast about it."

There are two motives for reading the bridge column in a paper: one, that you may learn something from it; the other, that you paid for the whole paper, so read it all.

In today's deal, how should South play in six spades after West leads the heart queen?

North's two-club response was natural and game-forcing, so he might have rebid two no-trump. South's four diamonds was a control-bid showing some interest in a slam. This was a tad optimistic, but with the singleton heart as a bonus, not totally unreasonable. (For serious two-over-one players, when a major suit is agreed at the three-level, play that an immediate control-bid shows serious slam interest. Instead, an artificial three no-trump announces mild slam interest, and a raise to game is slam negative. Here, South would bid three no-trump, not four diamonds.)

South can afford one trump loser, but not two. There is a natural reaction to start with a spade to the queen. Here, though, on the next round of trumps, declarer has a nasty guess – to finesse again or to put up his ace. (Mathematically, it is slightly better to try to drop the jack on the left.)

However, there is a much better plan. Start with the spade ace! If an honor drops, declarer is safe, and here can bring home an overtrick. But if South sees only low spades, he crosses to the board and leads another spade. He has no guesswork.

North 01-16-21
♠ 9 5 2
♥ A K 7
♦ K 10 8
♣ A K 6 3

West
♠ K
♥ Q J 9 8
♦ 9 7 4 3
♣ J 7 4 2

East
♠ J 8 3
♥ 10 5 4 3 2
♦ J 6 5
♣ Q 10

South
♠ A Q 10 7 6 4
♥ 6
♦ A Q 2
♣ 9 8 5

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Opening lead: ♥ Q

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

4			9		8		6	1
6				7				8
				5		2		
			2				8	
		5		4		7		
	8				5			
		4		2				
7				6				2
1	2		5		3			7

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

2	3	7	6	8	1	9	4	5
1	6	8	4	9	5	7	3	2
9	4	5	3	7	2	8	1	6
6	8	2	1	4	3	5	7	9
3	1	9	5	2	7	4	6	8
7	5	4	8	6	9	3	2	1
4	2	6	7	5	8	1	9	3
5	9	1	2	3	4	6	8	7
8	7	3	9	1	6	2	5	4

hp HOME & GARDEN

3D-PRINTED HOMES

Tackling a housing crisis with technology

By ETHAN BARON
The (San Jose, Calif.) Mercury News

Photos by Anda Chu / Bay Area News Group / TNS

Mighty Buildings Chief Operating Officer Alexey Dubov poses for a photograph at their facility in Oakland, Calif. The venture capital-funded startup is making 3D-printed home components from plastic polymer and minerals.

In a cavernous warehouse near the Oakland Coliseum, a 3D printer extrudes a secret blend of minerals and plastic polymer that's hardened into a heavy stone-like form under ultraviolet light.

The end result of that alchemy? A move-in-ready, robot-made modular home from technology startup Mighty Buildings.

Backed by $30 million in venture capital, Mighty Buildings is following a classic California Bay Area startup recipe: use technology to address a big problem and – it hopes – disrupt an existing industry.

The company claims it will be able to make homes faster, cheaper and greener than traditional builders and help solve a persistent housing crisis in the Bay Area and beyond.

"We are revolutionizing an industry by introducing more efficient materials and more efficient technology that isn't tailored to certain designs," said chief operating officer Alexey Dubov, an engineer who co-founded the company in 2017 with physicists Slava Solonitsyn, the CEO, and chief technical officer Dmitry Starodubtsev.

But while housing experts see promise in the technology and the product, they say serious hurdles must be overcome if Mighty Buildings is to gain traction in the market.

Beyond the sheer scale of the problem – state officials estimate that California needs nearly 2 million more homes by 2025 – Mighty Buildings is seeking to disrupt a development process notorious for slow-moving bureaucracy and resistance to change.

For now, the outer shells of Mighty Buildings' studios and small, one- to two-bedroom homes are 30 percent 3D printed – and can be milled by the firm's giant robots to resemble bricks or stonework – but the company expects larger homes that it plans to start installing this year will be 60 to 80 percent 3D printed.

"We do it all with zero waste because we print exactly what we need," chief sustainability officer Sam Ruben said, adding that the process results in 99 percent less construction waste than standard home-building.

While the startup's goal is to print any kind of building to an architect or designer's specifications, including multi-family structures and office buildings, Mighty Buildings is presently focused on small "accessory dwelling units" that can be installed as second houses and used by homeowners who may rent them out.

"For us it's a stepping stone," Dubov said.

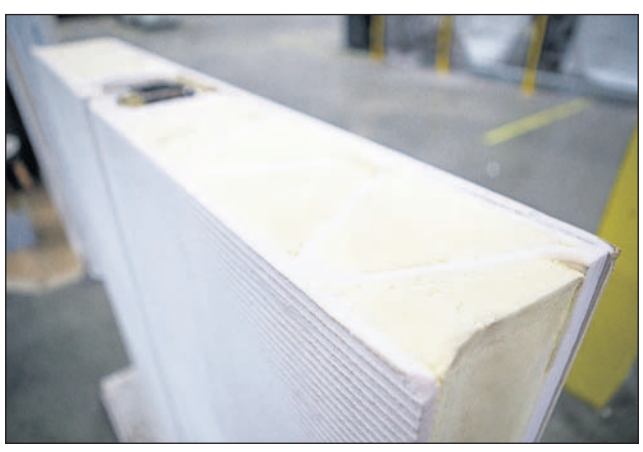
So far, six units have been installed in California. The startup has the capacity to make 20 homes per month, but intends to boost that to about 80 by the end of 2021.

Mighty Buildings isn't the first company to build houses using 3D printing. Small homes produced by Texas-based ICON began housing homeless people last summer in the state.

But Ruben said Mighty Buildings' "light stone material" is the first 3D-printed product certified for home construction by the international safety standards organization UL.

In the Bay Area, accessory dwelling units (ADUs), aka tiny houses or in-law units, have been hailed as a partial solution to the housing crisis.

Issi Romem, an economist and fellow at the Terner Center for Housing Innovation at University of California Berkeley, estimated in late 2019 that if 1 in 10 Bay Area lots with a single-family residence had an ADU, the region's housing stock could grow by nearly 20 percent over the next two decades.



A cross-section model of a 3D-printed wall is shown at Mighty Buildings.

Mighty Buildings focuses its marketing on a "turnkey" package that includes permits, foundation and a building, along with on-site installation or assembly. A 350-square-foot one-bathroom Mighty Mod unit dropped by crane onto a property costs $183,750, while a two- to three-bedroom and one- to two-bathroom Mighty House ranging from 864 to 1,440 square feet starts at $287,500, and is assembled on site.

"Once the permits are in hand, we can go from a virgin backyard to completed in a month," Ruben said.

Mighty Buildings wants to address the housing crisis by adding its ADUs to a region's housing stock, but also, by 2022, through multiple-residence buildings up to five stories tall.

"If we're going to tackle housing affordability, that's an important aspect," Ruben said.

Stanford University professor of engineering and design Barry Katz believes that in the push to bring 3D printing into mainstream home construction, "Lots of people will try, most of them will fail, and some of them may engineer the real breakthrough."

The Bay Area's pressing housing shortage, coupled with the popularity of ADUs, may boost Mighty Buildings' fortunes, Katz said. But housing, "has been one of the most resistant areas to experimental technologies."

Terner Center researcher Tyler Puller also tempers the potential promise he sees in the company's plans with some skepticism. He believes ADUs can make "a dent" in the housing shortage and that multi-story housing could do even more. But he's not sure 3D construction is the answer.

"I just don't fully understand the appeal other than it's flashy and exciting," he said.

Plus, Mighty Buildings' relatively high prices for ADUs don't appear to reflect reduced labor costs, and the plastic in the firm's printing mixture may put it out of step with the market's movement away from petroleum products, Puller said.

The cost of a traditionally built small ADU, Puller said, averages about $150,000, which is in line with a $400-per-square-foot cost formula used by The Bay Area Council.

Puller sees Mighty Buildings, among other startups taking aim at the housing crisis, "as part of a grouping that is using venture capital to go after what is seemingly a pretty luxury market, no matter how much they claim to be addressing the housing shortage."

While Mighty Buildings' executives believe their "incremental" approach to increasing the percentage of 3D-printed material in its homes will help gather support and approval from local development officials and modernize building codes to allow for its products, Puller said the technology is a dramatic departure even for those cities that have shown a willingness to consider new materials and techniques.

The company boasts in marketing materials that its turn-key package can dramatically accelerate the process of putting up a home, and slash building costs, with the panels for its studios, for example, requiring half the workers of traditional construction and 95 percent fewer hours to make.

"We're not trying to replace labor," Ruben said. "We're just trying to deal with a fact that we don't have enough people to build all the housing that we need."

A 2019 McKinsey report on automation in construction, including the use of 3D printing, projected that robotic technologies producing modular structures will "have a significant impact on the construction workforce, but the transition will take decades."

Construction workers union leader David Bini doesn't expect 3D printing to rob tradespeople of jobs, as people will still need to lay foundations, assemble homes and put in plumbing and wiring.

And construction is evolving, with some workers now spending their entire days in front of screens, said Bini, executive director of the Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building and Construction Trades Council.

He sees no "silver bullet" for the Bay Area's housing crisis, but Mighty Buildings may play a role in addressing it, he said.

"At this stage, I think this is a great idea if it gets ADU units in people's backyards and helps out our housing problem," Bini said.

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

The Richfield

An arrangement of brick and glass blends to give the Richfield a look that's stately and welcoming. Masonry columns support the keystone-crowned arched portico that frames the two-story entry. Arched windows and a foliage-filled raised brick planter add grace and soften the image.

Inside, light washes in through two-story walls of glass in the two-story high foyer and great room. From the balcony at the second story landing you can overlook both spaces.

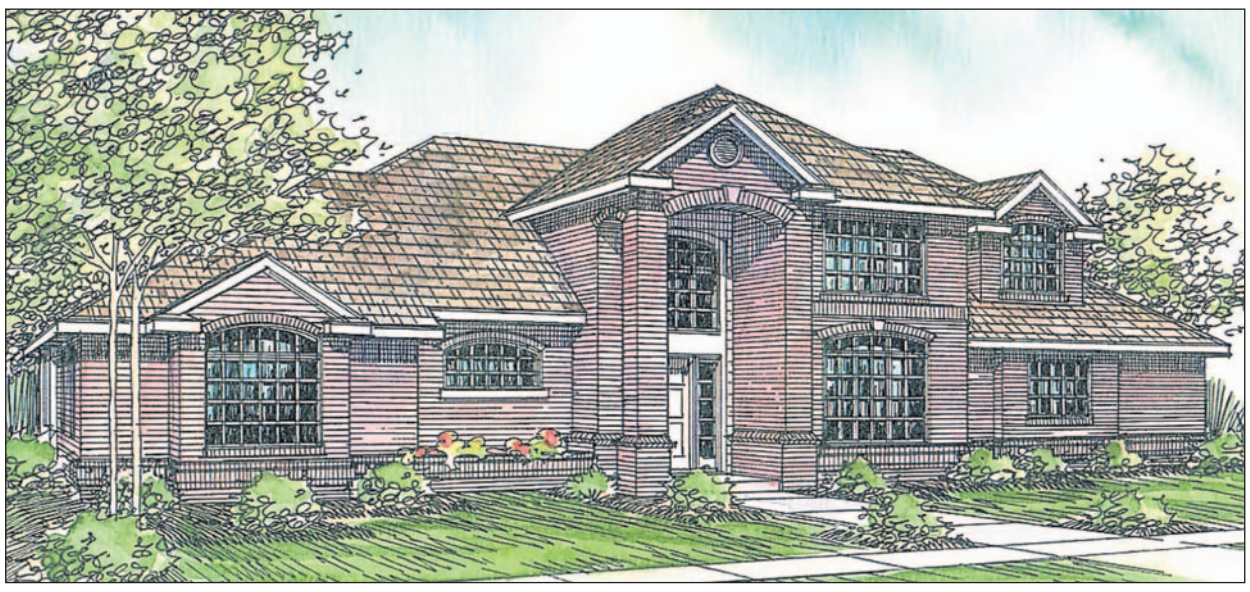
This informal plan has no living room. What it does have is a spacious great room, open to the kitchen and nook. A fireplace is nestled between storage shelves and an entertainment center with overhead shelves.

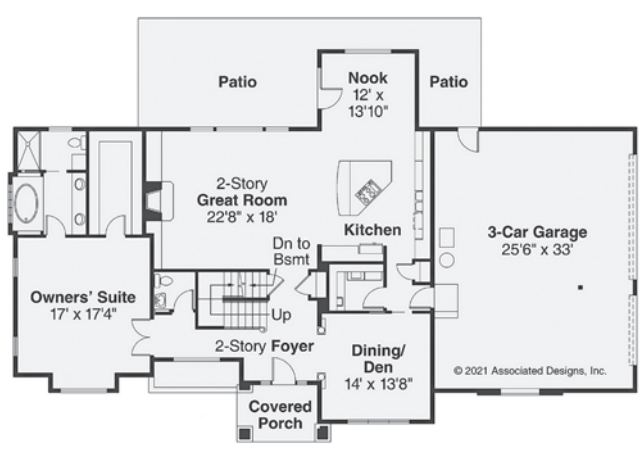
In the kitchen, a large work island adds counter space for multiple cooks, and an eating bar for chatting. Utilities are out of the way, but easy to get to, tucked in an alcove off the hallway that connects the kitchen, dining room and three-car garage.

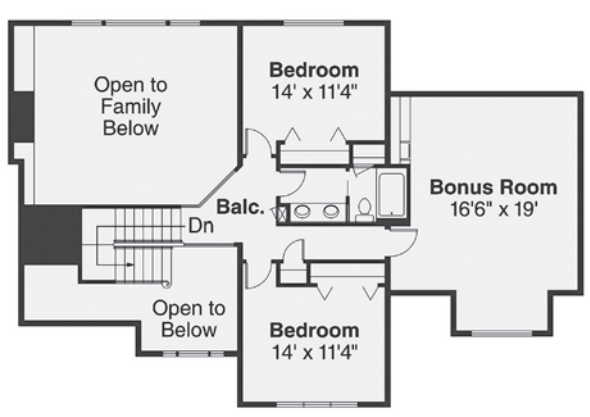
The boxed bay that expands the owners' suite is an ideal location for a cozy window seat. Other features include a deep walk-in closet and a private two-section bathroom. Natural light filters in through the glass block wall next to the soaking tub. The shower and toilet can be isolated for steam containment and added privacy. Two bedrooms, a dual-compartment bathroom and a huge bonus room are upstairs.

For more information, or to view other designs, visit www.associateddesigns.com or call 800-634-0123.

House name: Richfield 10-352
First floor: 1,959 square feet
Second floor: 612 square feet
Bonus room: 408 square feet
Garage: 888 square feet
Dimensions: 80-feet-8-inches by 48-feet







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13768 Red Arrow Highway, Harbert, MI | 269-469-1256

NEW LISTING

29257 Misty Pines $425,000
Dowagiac - PRIEST LAKE
·4 BR, 3.5 BA, 2,250 SF
·Top Quality, Sprawling Ranch on Peaceful Priest Lake
·Main Level Living Room with Triple Coffered Ceilings and Fireplace
·Huge Master Bedroom with Spacious Closet and Master Suite
·The 14x16 Three Season Room Overlooks the Lake
CressyEverett.com/21000819
Dave Springsteen: 269-462-2500

NEW LISTING

9500 Steimle Road $225,000
Eau Claire - BRUSH LAKE
·3 BR, 2 BA, 1,292 SF
·There is a Deck Overlooking the Lake off the Living Room
·Enjoy the Quiet Waters of Brush Lake with 110' of Frontage
·Fireplace in Family Room with Tile Floors
·There is a Large, Oversized 2-Car Attached Garage
CressyEverett.com/21000661
Dave Springsteen: 269-462-2500

NEW LISTING

3579 Ohio Street $182,000
Coloma
·3 BR, 1 BA, 1,212 SF
·Escape to a Quaint Lake Michigan Cottage
·This Home is Ready for you to Move Right In and Start Enjoying
·Comes With a Large, Fully Insulated Pole Barn
·Additional Buildable Lot Included in the Sale
CressyEverett.com/21000575
Ben Stephen: 269-208-9076

TV

26841 Dutch Settlement Rd $425,000
Dowagiac
·A Great Investment Property
·Presently Used as a Daily/Weekly Rental for Golf Outings
·Adjacent to the Spruce Ridge Golf Course
·Large 20x58 All Seasons Room
·Overlooking the 24x60 Indoor heated Pool
CressyEverett.com/20022020
Dave Springsteen: 269-462-2500

TV

3463 Michael Lane $609,900
St. Joseph
·5 BR, 4.5 BA 3,129 SF
·Don't miss the Opportunity to Make this River Oasis your New Home
·109 feet of St Joe River Frontage on 1.75 Acres
·Beautiful Large Windows and Abundant Natural Light
·Multiple Slider Doors Allow Easy Access to Multi-Level Decking
CressyEverett.com/20024483
Ben Stephen: 269-208-9076

TV

709 Lake Street $1,125,000
St. Joseph - LAKE MICHIGAN
·5 BR, 2 BA, 1,736 SF
·Looking to Build a Home that Fronts Lake Michigan and Silver Beach
·Walk Across the Road to Silver Beach and Close to the Silver Beach Pizzeria
·View Gorgeous Sunsets All Year Long Right From Your Home
·Enjoy Annual Activities Like the Farmers Market and Art & Car Shows Etc
CressyEverett.com/20050587
Tamra Curtis: 325-209-3681

TV

6019 Taylor Street $229,900
Coloma
·3 BR, 2.5 BA 2,300 SF
·Beautiful Home, Beautiful Property, Views of Lake Harris
·Association Deeded Lake MI Access, and Privacy
·A Great Spot Full Time or Just to Get Away
·There is an Extra Parcel Included in the Sale
CressyEverett.com/20043704
Alison Plaisier: 269-999-0070

TV

3762 Hopkins Lane $157,500
Stevensville
·3 BR, 1 BA, 1,012 SF
·Charming A-Frame Home with Large Lot
·Ready for Your Personal Touches
·Located in Wine Country, with Close Access to I-94
·Many Breweries and Several Local Beaches
CressyEverett.com/20046176
Shawn Ashley: 269-845-2317

TV

53154 Walnut Street $169,900
Dowagiac
·4 BR, 3 BA 1,794 SF
·This Large Remodeled Home has Plenty of Room Inside and Out
·Formal Style Dining Room, Oversized Living Room
·Lower Level Family/Rec Room with Wet Bar
·Brazillian Cherry Bamboo Hardwood and Ceramic Floors
CressyEverett.com/20047883
Dave Springsteen: 269-462-2500

1109 Main Street $65,000
St. Joseph - COMMERCIAL
·High Traffic Location in Downtown St. Joseph
·Entrances and Visibility from Both Main Street and Niles Avenue
·Move Your Business to this Prime Location
·Main Floor Area is Finished and has a Large Basement
CressyEverett.com/20027940
Ben Stephen: 269-208-9076

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- Reception areas, kitchenette, & more
- 2 private entrances; 8 private parking spaces
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- Call Loren Gerber 269-921-0754 or Dick Donnellan 269-921-0023

#20046914 - St. Joseph
- 12,000 SF CUSTOM CABINET MFG FACILITY
- Excellent commercial building
- Well maintained offices, showroom, shop area
- On 1.15 ACRES Royalton Twp
- $415,000
- In addition, ALL equipment also for sale
- Adjacent large vacant lot also for sale
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#20050139 - Benton Harbor
- BEAUTIFUL 2 BR CONDO
- Private location in Villas at the River
- 1325 SF with 2 full baths, fireplace
- Many built-ins; lots of storage
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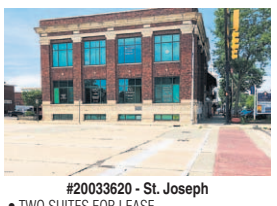
- Clubhouse, pool & many amenities!
- $254,000
- Call Earl Misch 269-876-0715



#20033620 - St. Joseph
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- Professional office space
- 930 & 950 SF on first & 2nd floors
- Great downtown St Joe location
- Free parking included
- Starting at $15/SF
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#17017381 - Benton Harbor
- ELEGANT EXECUTIVE OFFICE BLDG
- Just north of downtown St. Joe
- 1851 SF with 3 private offices
- Kitchenette, conf rm, reception area
- $229,000
- Or lease $11.50/sf
- Call Loren Gerber 269-921-0754

#20041203 - Berrien Springs
- 38 ACRES VACANT LAND
- PRIME DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY
- Oronoko Twp just off Exit 15 of US-31 bypass
- Includes 2 to 3-acre spring-fed pond
- Varied topography of hills, woods, ravines
- Many possibilities for commercial or residential
- $625,000
- Call Loren Gerber 269-921-0754

#20007786 - Niles
- ADULT FOSTER CARE HOME
- 2.34 ACRES in Berrien Twp
- Includes attached 2 BR care-taker home
- Large garage
- Nice country setting w/gardens
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- $250,000
- Call Loren Gerber 269-921-0754 or Dick Donnellan 269-921-0023

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UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

La Porte, IN
One and two bedroom apartments available. Water included. No smoking and no pets.
Call for more information & application at: (801)860-6674

La PORTE

3 Bedroom Lower

Washer & dryer hook up.

Includes garage.

No pets!

$800 per month
Plus utilities

Call 219-872-4731

Michigan City, IN
Large Lower
2 Bdrm Apt
Appls, Water & Sani included
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Trail Creek, IN

2 bedroom apartment.

Very nice & clean.
Central air.
With nice yard, very quiet neighborhood, $650 a month plus deposit. Water and sewer included. Renters responsible for Nipsco. No Pets. First month plus deposit due at signing.

Call (219) 879-3700

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Coloma, MI
2 Bedroom
750 per month
plus security
call for details- Jim
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Coloma, MI
Small two bedroom
650 per month
plus security
call for details- Jim
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HOMES FOR RENT

Berrien Springs, MI
Very nice 3 bedroom/2 bath house for rent.
Close to University and shopping area.
15 min to Lake Michigan or South Bend/shopping.
Brand new hardwood floor throughout house. All appliances stay. Including HE washer & dryer.
Central heating/air
Very quiet area.
Large fenced backyard.
Extra large 2 car garage.
Beautiful kitchen w/ granite countertop.
$1400/mo. Call/Text 269-449-2362

DUPLEXES FOR RENT

Stevensville, MI
2 bedroom, garage, laundry hookup, no smoking, AC, clean. Lease, sec. deposit
1 kitty allowed
700/mo. Call 269-429-2140.

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DUPLEX/APTS

LaPorte, IN

409 State Street

Commercial 2 Unit Rental Property

One Bedroom each with full bath up and partial bath down.

Partially fenced. parking for four cars in the back.

$95,500 Firm

Call (219) 344-2681

LEGALS

LEGALS

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF BERRIEN

FILE NO.
2020-0884-DE-R

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

Estate of: Doris Sue Ludwig, Deceased
Date of Birth: 03/23/1945

TO ALL CREDITORS:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, Doris Sue Ludwig, died 10/08/2020.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Brian Wiatrolik, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of this notice.

Date: 01/11/2021

Attorney name:

Phillip J. Reed P77157
119 North Church Street, Suite 202
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
269-216-9976

Personal Representative:
Brian Wiatrolik
33100 Fish Hatchery Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49009

The Kinexus Group is releasing two solicitations on behalf of Youth Solutions.

Youth Solutions Brand Content and Web Design – Available immediately

Youth Solutions Design Services for Marketing Materials – expected to be available on or about 1-20-21

More information on these requests including the RFP itself will be located located at https://www.miworks.org/public-information or by calling Stacy Neidlinger at 269-215-4899.

Kinexus is an Equal Opportunity Employer and requires ADA compliancy from all contractors. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Michigan Relay Center: 711 Voice and TDD. Kinexus is a partner of American Job Centers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL NOTICE

And I will punish the world for their evil, and the wicked for their iniquity, and I will cause the arrogancy of the proud to cease, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible. Isaiah 13:11-13, Genesis 18:20, Genesis 19:30, I John 3:4, and Romans 1:23-27

REPENT Acts 2:38
Joel 2:13, 14
Father's Name YAHWEH
Son's Name YAHSHUA

Published by Minister John Weathersby

Wanted: **information** and patterns for cut and pierce lampshade made in La Porte many years ago. Any information would be appreciated. Call 219-205-2339.

EMPLOYMENT

EDUCATION/ TEACHING

Third Grade Teacher

River Valley School district
Employment info at: www.rivervalleyschools.org
Deadline: Until filled

GENERAL HELP

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER CITY OF ST. JOSEPH

The City of St. Joseph is accepting resumes for the position of Public Safety Officer. Applicants must possess an Associate's Degree, Criminal Justice preferred, MCOLES certified or certifiable and Firefighter I & II desired. Please send cover letter and resume with three references to City of St. Joseph, Personnel Department, 700 Broad Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085, by Monday, February 5, 2021 or to lmoore@sjcity.com. Application and full job description is also available online at www.sjcity.com.

SKILLED TRADE

St. Joseph, MI. BH-SJ Wastewater Plant. PROCESS OPERATOR. The Benton Harbor - St. Joseph Wastewater Treatment Plant is seeking a Process Operator to perform all required operating duties during various shift periods including swing shifts. Four-week periods of day shifts are included as well. HS diploma required. Must possess or have necessary experience/ ability to obtain EGLE Class D Wastewater Operator License. Competitive pay and benefits including medical, dental, life/DI, deferred comp, pension, paid vacations and holidays. Must possess reliable transportation and be willing to work various shifts, weekends, and respond to call-in work. Work requires agility & ability to walk, climb ladders and stand for lengthy periods. Pay Range: $22.22-$23.88/hr. Interested persons should call 269-983-7719 for appointment to complete application at the BHSJ WWTP. Resume may be mailed to BHSJ WWTP, 269 Anchors Way, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

SKILLED TRADE

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WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

Benton Harbor, MI
3 Pillars Music is looking to buy record albums from 1970s to present, older guitars and comic books.
Please contact Tom at 269-313-7001 or 3pillarsmusic@gmail.com

BUYING JUNK
CARS & TRUCKS
Small Cars - $200
Medium Cars - $300
Large Vehicles - $350
Call Larry at (269)326-0510
Or Scott at (269)208-9208

WANTED
antique toys, advertising items, military items, or other vintage items.
Single items or collections.
Text or Call 574-485-7993 (Ask for Joe)

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CATS/DOGS/PETS

New Buffalo, MI
Female Bully
housebroken
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free to good home
931-704-3196

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Careers are made in the Classifieds... Find One Today!

BUYING JUNK CARS & TRUCKS

Small Cars - $250
Medium Cars - $350
Large Vehicles - $450
Call Larry at (269)326-0510
Or Scott at (269)208-9208

BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLANNING COMMISSION

TO: Property owners of Benton Charter Township, Berrien County, Michigan, and other interested parties.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Benton Charter Township Planning Commission, Berrien County Michigan, will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. located at the Benton Charter Township Hall, 1725 Territorial Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022, to consider the following actions:

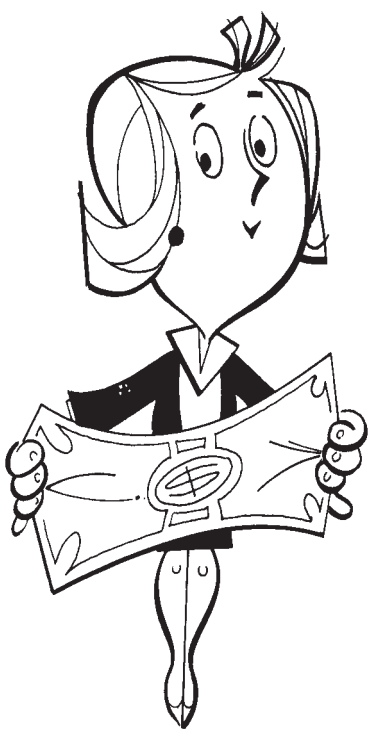
1. Richard Plangger, 616 E Marquette Woods Rd, St Joseph, MI; Owner; seeks special use permit approval to grow and process Medical Marijuana at his building at 1034 Territorial Road. The 3 adjacent parcels are located in the E – Restricted Industrial zoning district. 11- 03-0810-0042-01-1; -0810-0048-00-1; -0810-0050-00-5) (public hearing).

PLEASE BE NOTIFIED that you are invited to attend the hearing and present your opinions or position relative to the subject of this hearing. If you are unable to attend the hearing, you may send a letter stating your opinions or positions to the Planning Commission, Benton Charter Township, 1725 Territorial Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022, Attention: Zoning Administrator.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the applications and supporting documents are available for public inspection at the Township Hall during normal business hours Monday thru Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
If you are of need of handicapped access to this hearing, be advised you needs are provided for. If you wish special assistance, please contact us prior to the hearing.
Chris Fuchs
Building Official and Zoning Administrator

Dated January 11, 2021

MAKE SOME MONEY



IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TODAY!

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BERRIEN COUNTY

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF COLOMA,

Plaintiff,

v

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, ASSIGNEES AND SUCCESSORS OF CORA BELL KEIGLEY AND SYLVESTER KEIGLEY, EVELYN B. KEIGLEY FRIDAY, LAURA KEIGLEY MCCONNELL, LEROY KEIGLEY, WILLIAM O. KEIGLEY, EDITH KEIGLEY CARTER, NELLIE KEIGLEY KNAPP, AND VESTA KEIGLEY SCHOENFELD,

Defendants.
_____/

Case No. 21-0004-CHH

Honorable Donna B. Howard
Circuit Court Judge

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

James F. Scales (P40639)
Mika Meyers plc
Attorneys for Plaintiff
900 Monroe Ave NW
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503
(616) 632-8000
_____/

At session of said Court held in the County Courthouse, City of St. Joseph, County of Berrien, State of Michigan, on the 13th day of January, 2021.

PRESENT: HON. DONNA B. HOWARD
Circuit Court Judge

TO:
The unknown heirs of Cora Belle Keigley and Sylvester Keigley, Evelyn Keigley Friday, Laura Keigley McConnell, Leroy Keigley, William O. Keigley, Edith Keigley Carter, Nellie Keigley Knapp and Vesta C. Keigley

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

That notice may be given to Defendants in this matter by publication in the manner provided by MCR 2.106 in a newspaper as defined in that rule for Berrien County, namely the Tri-City Record or Herald Palladium. Notice by mailing shall not be required. However, Plaintiff shall post the same notice at the Coloma Township Hall for the duration covered by its publication.

The names of the Court and the parties involved in the action are given in the caption above.

The proceeding includes a Complaint to quiet title by extinguishing the record interest of any unknown heirs in property located on Lake Drive in Coloma Township, and assigned permanent parcel number 11-08-4200-0039-00-1, and legally described as:

The Southwesterly 30 feet of Lot 39, Keigley's Little Paw Paw Lake Resort, located in the Southeast quarter of Section 9, Town 3 South, Range 17 West, Coloma Township, Berrien County, Michigan (the "Property").

The Complaint seeks an Order quieting title to said Property in the name of the Charter Township of Coloma.

Defendants are notified that the Complaint herein may be answered by filing a copy with the Court at Berrien County Circuit Court, 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, Michigan 49085, with a copy to Plaintiff's attorney at the address given above, not later than 28 days after the last of three publications required by this Order. Defendants are notified that failure to file a response within that time shall subject them to entry of a Default Judgment extinguishing any interest they may have in the Property.

(s) Hon. Donna B. Howard
Circuit Court Judge

ANIMAL WELLNESS CLINIC

Looking for Licensed Veterinary Technician/Certified Veterinary Assistant

Would you like to work with a friendly, fun and efficient team? We are a small 1 doctor practice that is looking to add to our team. Our practice is up to date with new technology. We offer digital radiography, in house blood and urine equipment, cold laser, natural medicine, acupuncture, VOM, along with soft tissue surgical services and dentistry.

Candidates must excel in client communication, patient care and the ability to be a team player. Experience of 1 year preferred but we are willing to train the right person.

Duties include: Calm restraining of pets, running in house lab equipment, taking digital radiography, preparing exam and surgery rooms along with monitoring patients during and after procedures, cleaning exam, surgery and recovery rooms, filling prescriptions, give vaccines and injections, knowledge of veterinary terms, draw blood, maintain lab, pharmacy and surgical supplies, able to lift 50# plus, able to handle the mental demands of the job

Please email resume to sandy@animalwellnessclinic.com, fax to 219-874-2480 or mail to
Animal Wellness Clinic
4401 E.US Hwy 12
Michigan City, In 46360

HOUSE HUNTING?
Watch For Our Open House Ads In The Classifieds!

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

Love who you are and what you are capable of doing. Focus on putting your energy where it counts, and double up on the things that bring you joy and satisfaction. Savor each moment you get to spend with loved ones. Share your intentions and plans, and the year will unfold just the way you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Take a moment to reevaluate your relationships. Consider the best way to add to your skills and knowledge and raise your profile. Engage in something that requires insight and your personal touch.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Don't ask for too much or you will end up disappointed. Stick to your original plan, and you will be able to reach your goal without interference. Keep a steady pace.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Refuse to let anyone mess with your mind. Follow through with your intentions without drawing attention to yourself. Be secretive about your personal life and plans.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Pay close attention to detail. Call for expert advice when you have doubts about something. Hard work will pay off and help you find a unique way to overcome a dilemma.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Help a cause or someone going through hard times. Your kindness will lead to you receiving information that changes the way you feel about a peer or coworker. Romance is favored.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You'll pick up information quickly. An emotional matter will escalate if you let someone manipulate you or dump responsibilities in your lap. Stand up for your rights.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You'll have a unique perspective regarding a project. Your ability to envision the way you want things to turn out will help you convince others to help you achieve your goal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You'll come up against some tough competition. Don't expect everyone to play fair. Unpredictable situations will develop, leaving you feeling uncertain about your future. Stop fretting.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Efforts to gain social media popularity will escalate. A chance to show off what you've accomplished and to impress a loved one will develop. Don't hesitate to share your feelings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Stop looking back and start moving forward. Use your imagination, be innovative and let your intellect lead the way. A positive change at home will occur if you call the shots.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Someone from your past will come to mind. Reach out, and you'll pick up right where you left off. Share your feelings and long-term plans, and it will spur you to make big changes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Listen to others, but don't believe everything you hear. Verify information, and be articulate if you don't want your words misinterpreted. Spend more time on self-improvement. Don't act in haste.

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

A creative approach to money, possessions and health matters will improve your way of life. Shaping your environment to cater to your needs and dreams is in your best interest. How you handle emotional baggage will determine your success in achieving what you set out to do this year. A reward is within reach.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Don't let an outsider interfere in your personal life. Be a good listener and mull over suggestions, but when you make a decision, do whatever you feel is best for you and your loved ones.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Dig deep, gather facts and be ready for any opposition that comes your way. Look for the good in everyone, but don't be gullible when dealing with someone who exaggerates.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A reward will come your way if you are kind and compassionate. You may get a second chance to make a wish a reality. Romance is in the stars, and a personal pact looks inviting.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Make adjustments before someone asks you to or puts in a complaint. Be the one to make a difference or to do something that will make others feel good. Take the high road.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Don't take anything for granted. Strive to look your best and do whatever you can to make others feel good. An unusual offer or surprise will help you adjust to the changes taking place around you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You'll learn from an experience with a friend or relative. Don't trust anyone with sensitive information. Take care of personal matters yourself and develop opportunities on your own.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) The change someone makes will motivate you to try something new and exciting. A partnership will broaden your horizons and make you realize you don't have to do everything alone.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't act in haste. A job posting may look enticing, but read between the lines and you'll discover it's not a step up. Don't feel pressured to make a change prematurely. Take your time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A physical change will lift your spirits. A trendy look, a couple of selfies and a social media platform will draw plenty of attention. Spending quality time with someone will warm your heart.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Before you spend money, make sure you have enough in the bank. Taking on an unnecessary debt will leave you stressed about upcoming bills. You can have just as much fun on a budget.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Putting in the hours will pay off. Working from home has its benefits, especially when you have a tight schedule. Don't let someone's uncertainty leave you confused. Make necessary adjustments.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) A sensitive situation will surface with a friend or relative. Listen, but don't make promises or take on other people's problems. You'll be disappointed by someone you thought was trustworthy.

CROSSWORD

Crossword Answers D4

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

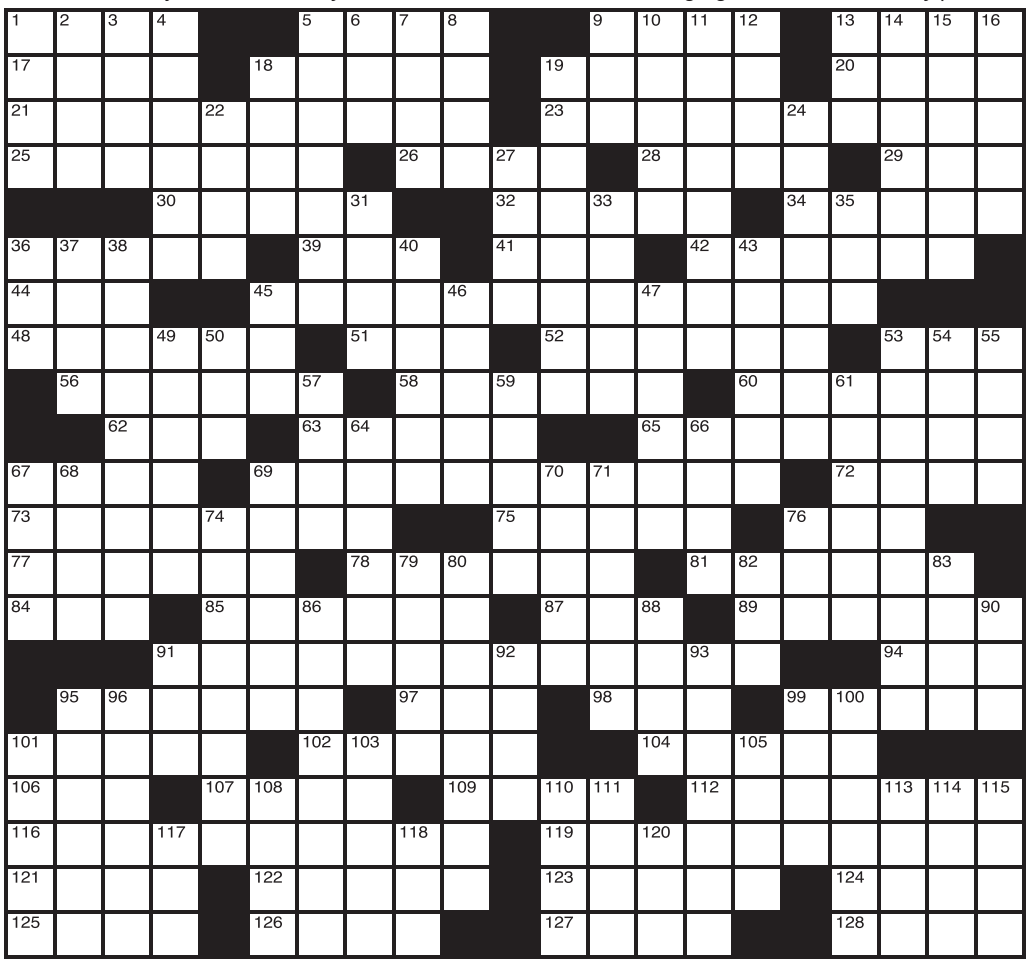
"HITTING THE BIG LEAGUES" By C.C. BURNIKEL

ACROSS

1 Splendid display
5 Unable to decide
9 Stare in wonder
13 Leaf through
17 Superlative prefix
18 Quick attack
19 Causing the willies
20 Malek of "Mr. Robot"
21 *Discount ticket based on age
23 *Raffle rewards, perhaps
25 Sonata producer
26 Downed with an ax
28 Ration (out)
29 Grain in granola
30 Piece of cake
32 Acknowledge surreptitiously, maybe
34 Pretender
36 Checking account lure
39 Mo. with dog days
41 Winter's day outburst
42 Most capable
44 One who gives a hoot
45 *Avocado misnomer
48 Investigate again, as a cold case
51 Itinerary abbr.
52 "Gimme a minute"
53 Part of a journey
56 Gets by
58 Downright or outright
60 Beer with a black eagle in its logo
62 Waze option: Abbr.
63 Playground response
65 Mexican buffet feature
67 Trio for A-Rod and Trout
69 *Cause of some back pain
72 Garden rodent
73 Lea Salonga, e.g.
75 Publisher Larry __, portrayal for which Woody Harrelson received an Oscar nomination
76 IOC country code three before Qatar
77 Virtual alter ego
78 Finds
81 Everest expert
84 __ Diego Padres
85 "The Irishman" Oscar nominee
87 Encountered
89 Many Oscar nominees
91 *Pre-wedding bash
94 Olive extract
95 "See ya!"
97 Brouhaha
98 Sweetie, in slang
99 Twitch stream annoyance
101 Civil War general
102 Cried in the cornfield
104 Aficionado
106 Squid's squirt
107 Inquires
109 Exec's aide
112 Having significant consequences
116 *It's not 112-Across
119 Leaving the amateur ranks, and a hint to the answers to starred clues
121 B-school subject
122 Autobahn autos
123 Layered veggie
124 __ Millions
125 Puts in stitches
126 Part of a process
127 Golf great Karrie
128 Asian laptop brand

DOWN

1 Promotional campaign
2 Follow
3 Channel guide, say
4 Hamlet, for one
5 Like salves
6 "For You" co-singer Rita
7 Impulsive
8 Wall St.'s "Big Board"
9 Nat __ Wild: cable channel
10 Pizzeria allure
11 Bugs in cop shows
12 Held on to
13 Hindu honorific
14 Easy-to-play instruments
15 "To clarify ... "
16 Not quite foggy
18 Hall of Fame quarterback Tarkenton
19 Sitcom sewer worker
22 Garfield's frenemy
24 Supersedes
27 Dallas Wings' org.
31 Grass-skirt dance
33 Monotonous sound
35 Yachter's pronoun
36 Neighbor of Den.
37 Had to pay
38 *Building diagram
40 Building beam
43 Ladybug or weevil
45 "I'll take that as __"
46 Understanding
47 Feature of Japan's flag
49 Watch dogs?
50 L.A.-to-Tucson dir.
53 *Workforce
54 List-ending abbr.
55 "Chicago" star
57 Unstable subatomic particle
59 Spots for ski racks
61 Romp
64 Amp carrier
66 Language __
67 Degs. for playwrights
68 Bounty rival
69 High seas concern
70 Dry spell at the plate
71 Blood bank category
74 Chicago NFL team's founder
76 Push-up target
79 Marriage acquisition
80 Alton Brown cooking show "Reloaded" in 2018
82 Monetary trifle, in slang
83 La Scala highlight
86 Borrow from a library
88 Disneyland shuttle
90 Sneaky
91 Nap site
92 Engine parts
93 One who scoffs at bagged pekoe, perhaps
95 "No fighting!"
96 Informal "Get me?"
99 Laura of "Big Little Lies"
100 Total mystery
101 Silent performers
103 Line to the audience
105 Blood line
108 Retreats with peels
110 Pack away
111 Adjust for pitch
113 Crude cartel
114 Implore
115 Go sky-high
117 Walk-__: small roles
118 Quick drink
120 Celery piece



1/17/21 xwordeditor@aol.com ©2021 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

RESERVE THIS SPACE TODAY!

Answer To Today's Puzzle

P	O	M	P			T	O	R	N			G	A	W	K		S	K	I	M
U	B	E	R		F	O	R	A	Y		E	E	R	I	E		R	A	M	I
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			C	I	N	C	H			N	O	D	A	T		P	H	O	N	Y
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1/17/21

White Space Sells

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2020 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB XLT 4X4

MAGNETIC, 2.7 ECOBOOST V6 ENGINE, REVERSE SENSING SYSTEM, 20 INCH CHROME-LIKE PVD WHEELS, POWER SLIDING REAR WINDOW, NAVIGATION, 3.55 LOCKING REAR AXLE, XLT CHROME APPEARANCE PACKAGE, AND MUCH MORE! F20479

MSRP	$49,635
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,390
FORD F-SERIES RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 3,250
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CASH	- 750
FORD BONUS CASH	- 1,500
FORD COMPETITIVE CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* $40,745

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW XLT 4X4

BLUE JEANS, 2.7 ECOBOOST V6 ENGINE, XLT CHROME APPEARANCE GROUP, 3.55 LOCKING REAR AXLE, NAVIGATION, REMOTE START SYSTEM, POWER SLIDING REAR WINDOW, LED BOX LIGHTING, REVERSE SENSING SYSTEM, AND MUCH MORE! F20404

MSRP	$50,660
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 3,215
FORD F-SERIES RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 3,250
FORD BONUS CASH	- 1,500
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 750
FORD COMPETITIVE CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* $40,945

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 FORD MUSTANG SHELBY GT 350

WHITE WITH BLUE STRIPES, LEATHER SEATS, GT 350, HERITAGE PACKAGE, NAVIGATION, B & O 12 SPEAKERS SOUND SYSTEM, BLIND SPOT MONITORING WITH CROSS TRAFFIC ALERT, AND MUCH MORE! F20440

WOW! MUST SEE!

2020 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED 4X4

RAPID RED METALLIC, 2ND ROW BUCKET SEATS, 22 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, 3.5 ECOBOOST ENGINE, PANORAMIC VISTA ROOF, 360 DEGREE CAMERA, VOICE ACTIVATED NAVIGATION, ENHANCED ACTIVE PARK ASSIST, LED HEADLAMPS, AND MUCH MORE! F20352

MSRP	$75,120
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,925
FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS CASH*	- 1,250
FORD COMPETITIVE CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 3,000

SALE PRICE* $67,945

PLUS 0% FOR 60 MONTHS (WITH APPROVED CREDIT)

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2020 FORD EDGE SEL ALL WHEEL DRIVE

AGATE BLACK METALLIC, DUNE ACTIVEX SEAT MATERIAL, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, NAVIGATION, HANDS FREE LIFTGATE, REMOTE START, WIRELESS CHARGING PAD, PANORAMIC VISTA ROOF, AND MUCH MORE! F20322

MSRP	$40,615
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,670
FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS CASH*	- 4,700
FORD COMPETITIVE CONQUEST BOUS CASH*	- 2,000

SALE PRICE* $32,245

PLUS 0% FOR 60 MONTHS (WITH APPROVED CREDIT)

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2020 FORD TRANSIT CARGO VAN

RACE RED, CLOTH SEATS, POWER MIRRORS, VINYL FLOOR COVERING, CRUISE CONTROL, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, AND MUCH MORE! F20483

MSRP	$41,575
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,580
FORD RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 1,750
FORD GM FULL SIZE VAN COMPETITIVE CONQUEST CASH*	- 2,500
FORD COMPETITIVE CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* $34,745

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 FORD RANGER 4X4 SUPERCAB

SHADOW BLACK, SYNC, CRUISE CONTROL, STX APPEARANCE PACKAGE, CARPETING, AND MUCH MORE! F20453

MSRP	$32,040
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,045
FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS CASH*	- 1,250

SALE PRICE* $29,745

PLUS 0% FOR 60 MONTHS (WITH APPROVED CREDIT)

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2020 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

AGATE BLACK METALLIC, 1.5 ECOBOOST ENGINE, FOR CO-PILOT 360 ASSIST, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, NAVIGATION, HEATED SEATS, REAR VIEW CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! F20329

MSRP	$30,145
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,150
FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS CASH*	- 3,500
FORD NEW YEAR TRADE-IN ASSISTANCE BONUS CASH*	- 2,000
FORD CAR TO ESCAPE OWNER LOYALTY*	- 500

SALE PRICE* $22,995

PLUS 0% FOR 60 MONTHS (WITH APPROVED CREDIT)

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

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2021 JEEP COMPASS 80TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION 4X4

LASER BLUE PEARL, NAVIGATION, LEATHER SEATS, 19 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, BACK-UP CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! C21011

MSRP	$31,435
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 390
REBATE	- 3,500
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 750
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$26,795
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
RETURNING LESSEE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $25,795

(*MUST QUALILFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2020 DODGE CHALLENGER R/T 50TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

WHITE KNUCKLE EXTERIOR, HARMAN KARDON AUDIO GROUP, 5.7 HEMI V-8 ENGINE, NAVIGATION, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, 20 INCH WHEELS, REMOTE START, HEATED FRONT SEATS, MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE! C20298

MSRP	$45,745
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,500
REBATE	- 3,750
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$40,495
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
RETURNING LESSEE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $39,495

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED X 4X4

SLATE BLUE PEARL, 9 AMPLIFIED SPEAKERS WITH SUBWOOFER, LIMITED X PACKAGE, SPORT HOOD, NAVIGATION, BI-XENON HID HEADLAMPS, 20 INCH GRANITE CRYSTAL ALUMINUM WHEELS, POWER LIFTGATE, POWER SUNROOF, BLIND SPOT AND CROSS PATH DETECTION, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, AND MUCH MORE! C20294

MSRP	$49,685
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,440
CHRYSLER CAPITAL RETAIL BONUS CASH*	- 1,000
REBATE	- 2,750
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$43,495
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
RETURNING LESSEE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $42,495

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2020 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE 4X4

BLACK CLEAR COAT, HEATED FRONT SEATS, TOUCH SCREEN, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, BACK-UP CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! C20176

MSRP	$28,875
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 880
REBATE	- 3,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 750
NATIONAL BONUS CASH	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$23,745
2020 RETURNING LESSEE *	- 500
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $22,745

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2021 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 4X4

BLACK, 2.0 4-CYLINDER TURBO ENGINE, PREMIUM BLACK SUNRIDER SOFT TOP, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, 8 SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, REAR BACK-UP CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! C21008

MSRP	$36,025
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,030
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$34,995
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $34,495

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 RAM 5500 4X4 FLATBED STAKE TRUCK WITH LIFT

BRIGHT WHITE, 6.4 V8 ENGINE, 16 FOOT PLATFORM FLATBED WITH STAKE RACKS, POWER LIFTGATE, CHROME APPEARANCE PACKAGE, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, INTEGRATED VOICE COMMAND WITH BLUE TOOTH, AND MUCH MORE! C20253

MSRP	$44,300
ADD FOR STAKE BODY AND LIFTGATE	+13,629
SUBTOTAL	$57,929
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,934
REBATE	- 500
ON THE JOB COMMERCIAL UPFIT*	- 1,000
RAM COUPONS	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$52,995
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
RETURNING LESSEE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $51,995

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE PLUS 4X4

DIAMOND BLACK CRYSTAL, ALTITUDE PACKAGE, 18 INCH GLOSS BLACK 5-SPOKE WHEELS, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, POWER SEAT, BLIND SPOT AND CROSS PATH DETECTION, BACK-UP CAMERA, AND MUCH MORE! C20265

MSRP	$32,030
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 535
REBATE	- 2,500
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 750
RETAIL BONUS CASH	- 750
BONUS CASH	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$26,995
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
RETURNING LESSEE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $25,995

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2020 DODGE JOURNEY

PITCH BLACK, BLACK TOP PACKAGE, BLACK WHEELS, 3-ZONE TEMP CONTROL, POWER SEAT, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, 7-PASSENGER SEATING, SATELLITE RADIO, AND MUCH MORE! C20134

MSRP	$27,230
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 485
REBATE	- 2,250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 1,000
RETAIL BONUS CASH	- 1,000
CONQUEST TRADE-IN BONUS CASH*	- 2,500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$19,995
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
CONQUEST LEASE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $18,995

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2.0 TURBO EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 22K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Back-Up Camera, Hands Free Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Firecracker Red, C21115A

Now $28,591

2017 FORD FUSION SE

1.5 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Painted Luster Nickel Wheels, 26K Miles, SE Tech Package, SYNC 3, Power Seating, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Burgundy Velvet, U20224

Now $17,192

2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

3.2 V6 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 12K Miles, Remote Start, GPS Navigation, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Slate Blue Pearl, U20231

Now $26,406

2016 FORD FUSION SE HYBRID

2.0 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 68K Miles, Navigation, SE Hybrid Tech, SYNC, Power Seating, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Shadow Black, F20177A

Now $12,952

2018 LEXUS IS 300 AWD

3.5 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 24K Miles, Navigation, Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Graphite, M20079A

Now $29,990

2008 FORD F-250 XLT SUPERCAB

6.8 V10 EFI Engine, 5 Speed Automatic, Steel Wheels, 116K Miles, Bed Liner Running Boards, CD-Player, Tow Command Center, Remote Keyless Entry System, Oxford White, F20285B

Now $12,949

2018 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

1.5 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Only 19K Miles! SYNC 3, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Panoramic Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magnetic, U20214

Now $20,607

2012 FORD FIESTA SE HATCHBACK

1.6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 95K Miles, Sport Appearance, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Lime Squeeze Metallic, F20394B

Now $5,990

2018 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SAHARA 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 41K Miles, Remote Start, Black 3-Piece Hard Top, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touch Screen Display, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Granite, C21052A

Now $38,470

2018 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 REGULAR CAB 4X2

4.3 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Styled Steel Wheels, 51K Miles, Security Cover, Running Boards, Rear Step Bumper, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Race Red, C21068A

Now $20,912

2013 FORD ESCAPE SEL 4X4

2.0 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 143K Miles, Remote Start, SEL Technology Package, SYNC, Memory Power Driver's Seat, Leather Heated Front Seats, Dual Climate Control, Rear Park Aid, Power Lift Gate, Car Smart Checked! Ginger Ale, U20213A

Now $9,844

2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE TRAILHAWK 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 39K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather-Suede Heated/AC Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Moon Roof, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Rhino, C21124A

Now $33,375

2019 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

1.5 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Only 12K Miles! Remote Start, SYNC 3, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Auto Climate Control, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magnetic, C21018A

Now $21,793

2015 CHRYSLER 200 S

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 65K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touchscreen Display, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Chrysler Certified! Velvet Red, F20460A

Now $13,733

2019 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE PLUS 4X4

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 45K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Panoramic Moon Roof, Blind Spot Monitor, Rear Parking Aid, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Olive Green, C20196A

Now $22,335

2018 CHEVY EQUINOX LT AWD

1.5 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 35K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Touch Screen Display, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Summit White, U20218

Now $19,995

2018 JEEP COMPASS TRAILHAWK 4X4

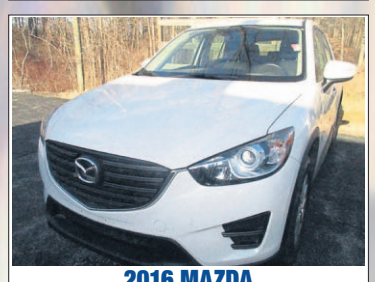
2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 20K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Power Driver's Seat, Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Panoramic Moon Roof, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Orange Spitfire, C20328A

Now $24,354

2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE SUMMIT 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 59K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Panoramic Moon Roof, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Park Assist System, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Brilliant Black, C21079A

Now $26,897



2016 MAZDA CX-5 SPORT AWD

2.5 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 58K Miles, CD-Player, Touchscreen Display, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Freshly Detailed! Crystal White Pearl, U20180A

Now $16,899

2017 JEEP COMPASS TRAILHAWK 4X4

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Less Thank 12K Miles! Remote Start, Navigation, Power Driver's Seat, Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Laser Blue Pearl, U20225

Now $24,902

2015 CHEVY EQUINOX LS

2.4 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 77K Miles, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Summit White, Car Smart Checked! U20141B

Now $13,310

2016 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE EXTENDED CAB 4X4

5.3 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 83K Miles, Remote Start, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Power Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Stone Blue Metallic, F20442A

Now $28,735

2014 JEEP PATRIOT LATITUDE

2.4 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 47K Miles, Remote Start, Heated Front Seats, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Billet Silver, C20139A

Now $12,524

2015 FORD FUSION SE

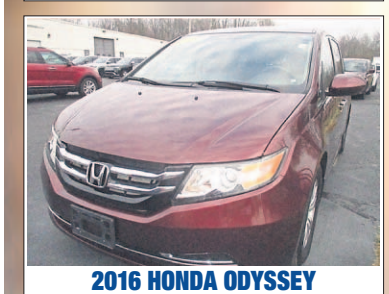
2.5 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 50K Miles, SYNC, Power Front Seats, CD-Player, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Tectonic Silver, F20410B

Now $12,905

2016 RAM 2500 LARAMIE DIESEL CREW CAB 4X4

6.7 Cummins Turbo DIESEL EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 69K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ram Certified! Bright White, C21070A

Now $46,999



2016 HONDA ODYSSEY SPECIAL EDITION

3.5 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 71K Miles, Power Front Seats, Power Sliding Side Doors, DVD Entertainment System, CD-Player, Auto Climate Control, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Burgundy, F20504A

Now $19,531

2017 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE 4X4

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 30K Miles, Remote Start, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touchscreen Display, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Bright White, U20220

Now $20,913

2018 RAM 1500 BIG HORN CREW CAB 4X4

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 28K Miles, Remote Start, Bed Liner, Heated Front Seats, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Steering Wheel, Park Assist System, Back-Up Camera, Trailer Brake Controller, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ram Certified! Bright White, U20229

Now $34,967

1995 FORD F-150 XLT REGULAR CAB 4X2

EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Steel Wheels, 212K Miles, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Power Windows, Power Locks, Green, F20518A

Now $2,400

2017 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

2.7 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 93K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, FX4 Off-Road Package, Remote Keyless Entry System, Oxford White, C19274E

Now $30,560

2013 RAM 1500 EXPRESS CREW CAB 4X4

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 85K Miles, Security Cover, Bed Liner, Remote Keyless Entry System, Mineral Gray, C20065H

Now $20,948

2013 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

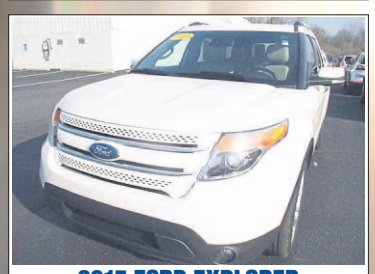
1.6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 80K Miles, SYNC, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ruby Red, U20219A

Now $10,985

2013 FORD F-150 FX4 SUPERCREW 4X4

5.0 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 135K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Security Cover, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seating, Power Adjust Pedals, Power Moon Roof, Auto Temp Control, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Tuxedo Black, F20177H

Now $21,499



2015 FORD EXPLORER LIMITED 4X4

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 144K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Dual Panel Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Lane Departure/Keep Assist, Blind Spot Monitor, Active Park Assist, Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, White Platinum, F21050A

Now $15,971

2004 MAZDA TRIBUTE ES 4X4

3.0 V6 EFI Engine, 4 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 166K Miles, Power Driver's Seat, Leather Heated Seating, Power Moon Roof, CD-Player, Remote Keyless Entry System, Glacier Silver, M20010A

Now $4,180

2017 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 60K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Dual Panel Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Blind Spot Information System, Forward and Reverse Sensing System, Back-Up Camera, Hands Free Lift Gate, Trailer Tow Package, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! White Platinum, F21056A

Now $26,901

2018 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR AWD

3.7 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Steel Wheels, 82K Miles, Ready For The Road Package, 100 Watt Siren and Speaker, Spot Lamp, SYNC, Vinyl Floor Covering, Power Driver's Seat, Remote Keyless Entry System, Shadow Black, F21017A

Now $17,878

2019 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

2.7 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 10 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, Less than 2,000 Miles! Remote Start, Navigation, Security Cover, Bed Liner, SYNC 3, Chrome Step Bars, Pre-Collision Assist, Back-Up Camera, Power Driver's Seat, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magma Red, F21058A

Now $39,767

2017 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE 4X4

2.4 EFI Engine, 9 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 39K Miles, Remote Start, Panoramic Moon Roof, Touchscreen Display, Back-Up Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Diamond Black Crystal, U20228

Now $20,500

2019 RAM 1500 LARAMIE CREW CAB 4X4

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 24K Miles, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touchscreen Display, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Back-Up Camera, Anti-Spin Differential Rear Axle, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ram Certified, Delmonico Red, C21029A

Now $45,743

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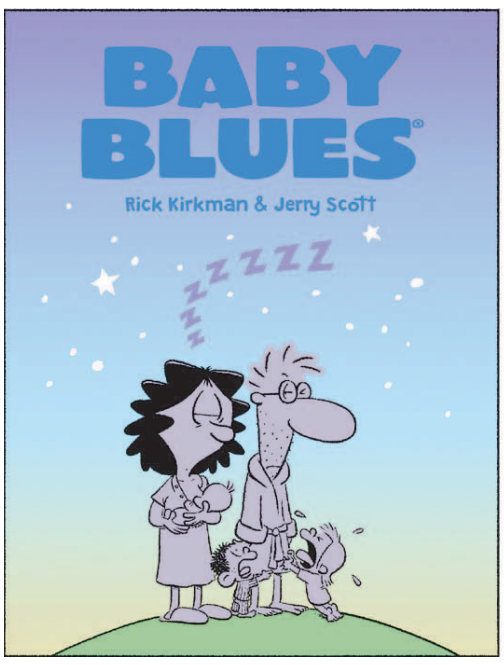
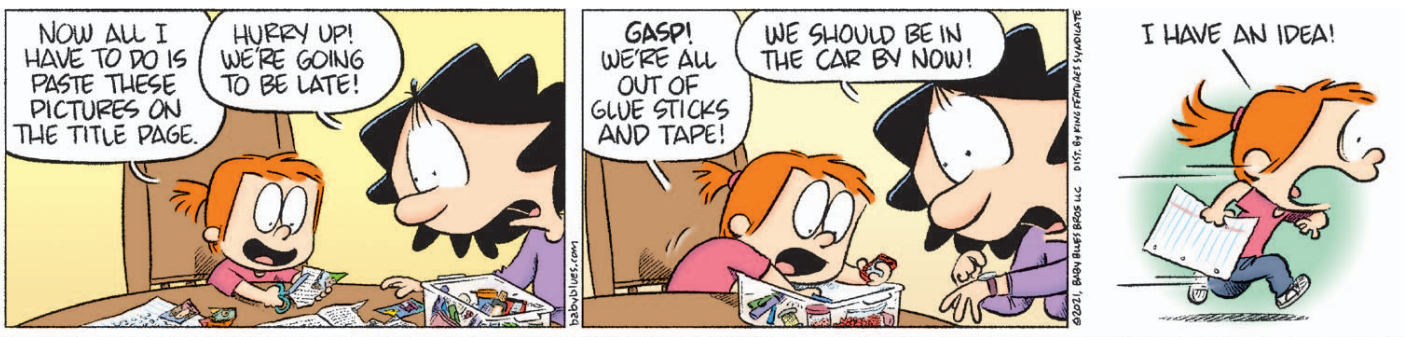
Weekend Comics

JAN. 16-17, 2021

BABY BLUES

Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott




NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PASTE THESE PICTURES ON THE TITLE PAGE.
HURRY UP! WE'RE GOING TO BE LATE!
GASP! WE'RE ALL OUT OF GLUE STICKS AND TAPE!
WE SHOULD BE IN THE CAR BY NOW!
I HAVE AN IDEA!
DID YOU FIND SOME GLUE?
NOPE. SOMETHING STICKIER.
RUB RUB RUB
THE TV REMOTE??
THESE THINGS ARE NEVER COMING OFF!
babyblues.com
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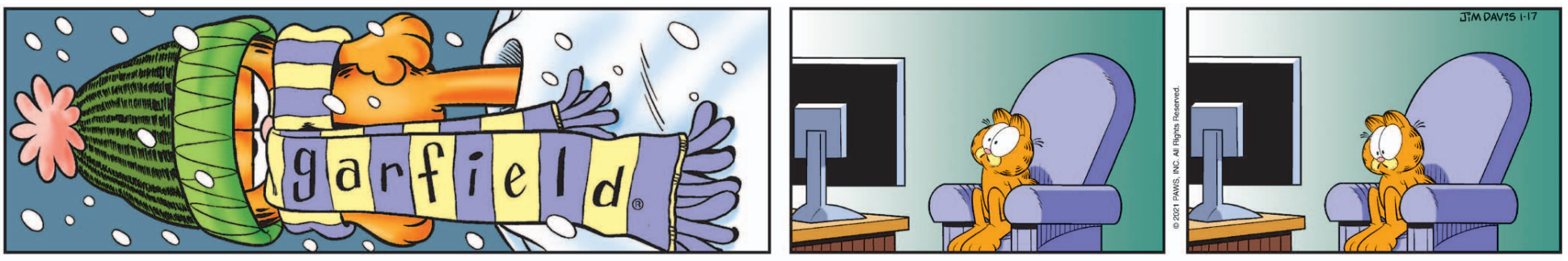
garfield


garfield
JIM DAVIS 1-17
THIS HAS BEEN "THE LITTLE RED DOT SHOW"
COMING UP NEXT: "FAKE THAT THROW!"
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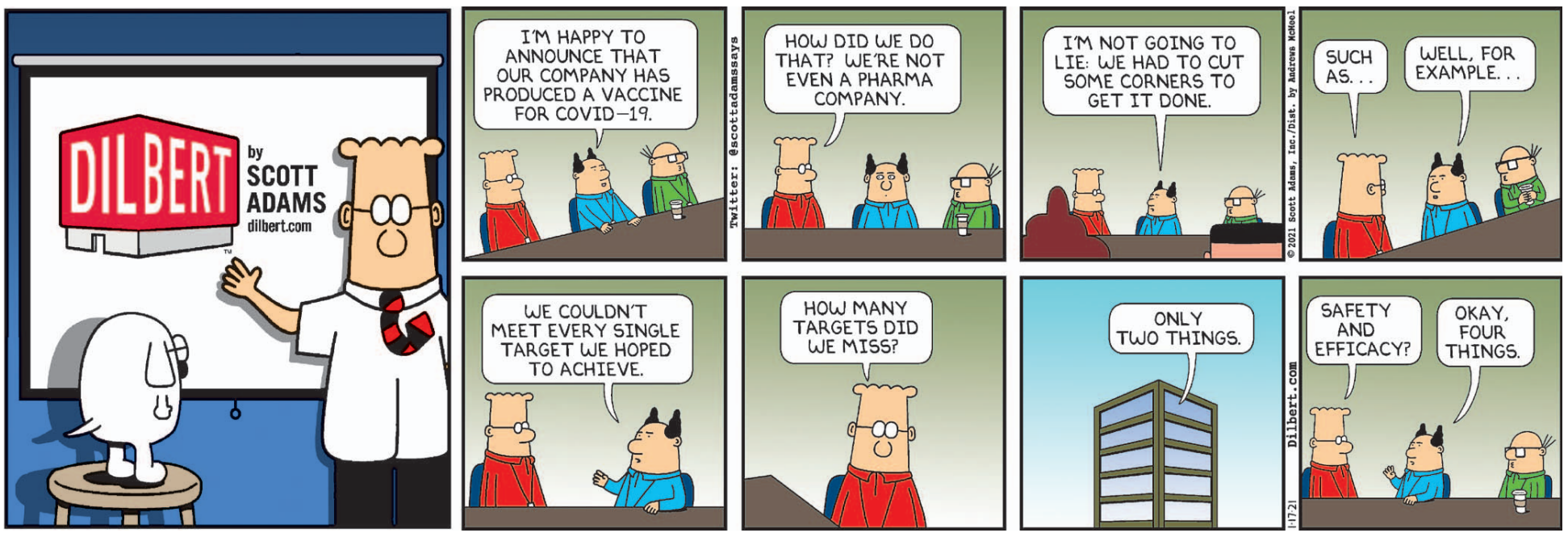
DILBERT

by SCOTT ADAMS

dilbert.com


I'M HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT OUR COMPANY HAS PRODUCED A VACCINE FOR COVID-19.
HOW DID WE DO THAT? WE'RE NOT EVEN A PHARMA COMPANY.
I'M NOT GOING TO LIE: WE HAD TO CUT SOME CORNERS TO GET IT DONE.
SUCH AS...
WELL, FOR EXAMPLE...
WE COULDN'T MEET EVERY SINGLE TARGET WE HOPED TO ACHIEVE.
HOW MANY TARGETS DID WE MISS?
ONLY TWO THINGS.
SAFETY AND EFFICACY?
OKAY, FOUR THINGS.
Twitter: @scottadamssays
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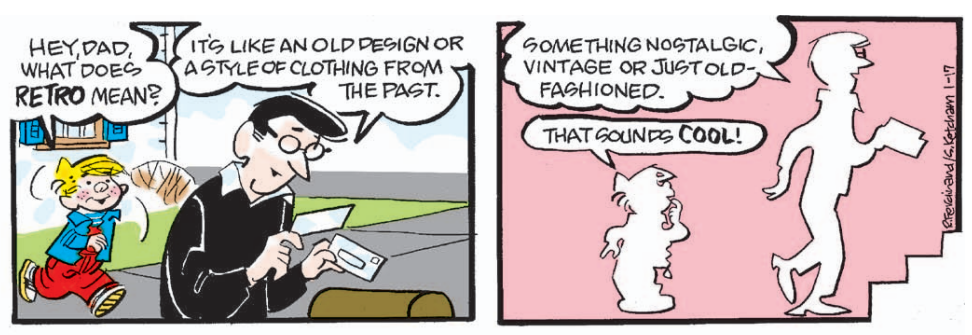
Dilbert.com
1-17-21

Hank Ketcham's Dennis the Menace

RETRO ACTIVE


HEY, DAD, WHAT DOES RETRO MEAN?
IT'S LIKE AN OLD DESIGN OR A STYLE OF CLOTHING FROM THE PAST.
SOMETHING NOSTALGIC, VINTAGE OR JUST OLD-FASHIONED.
THAT SOUNDS COOL!
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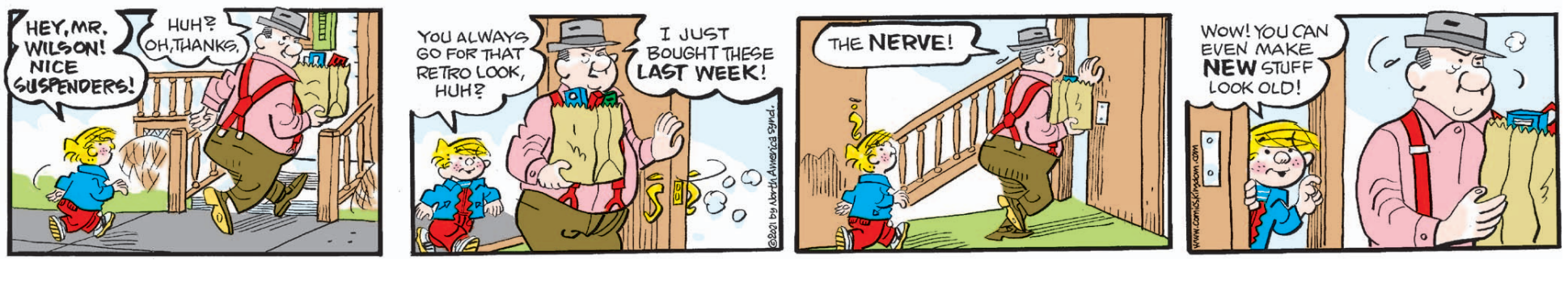
1-17

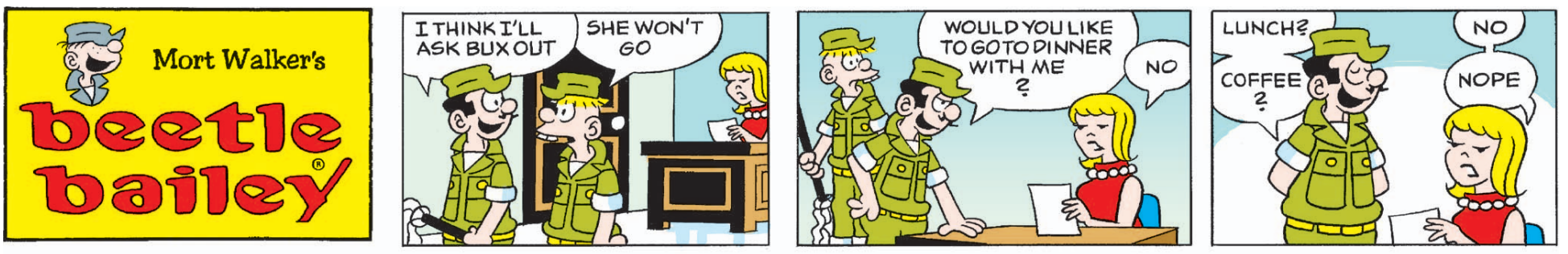

HEY, MR. WILSON! NICE SUSPENDERS!
HUH? OH, THANKS.
YOU ALWAYS GO FOR THAT RETRO LOOK, HUH?
I JUST BOUGHT THESE LAST WEEK!
©2021 by North America Synd.
THE NERVE!
WOW! YOU CAN EVEN MAKE NEW STUFF LOOK OLD!
www.comicskingdom.com

CURTIS

by RAY BILLINGSLEY

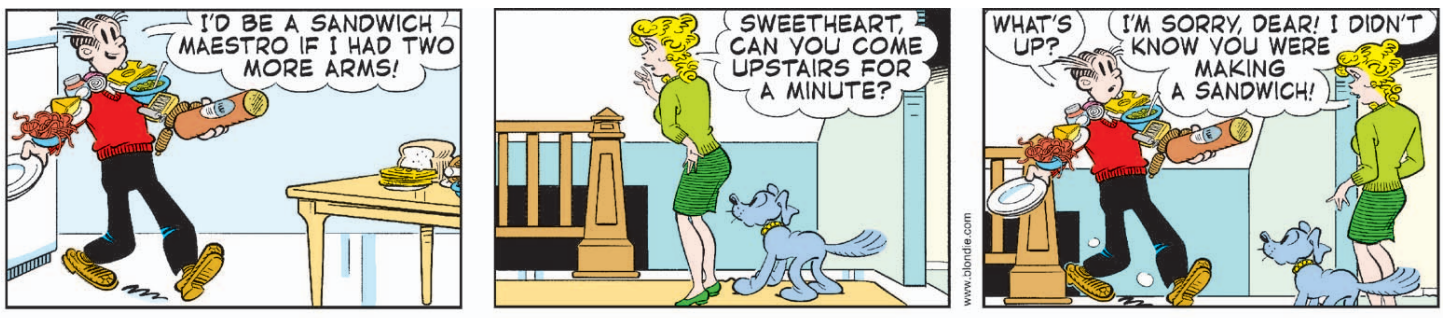
MY GOODNESS, CURTIS, YOU LEFT THE PAN IN THE SINK TO SOAK
MY GOODNESS, CURTIS, YOU DIDN'T DO A VERY GOOD JOB ON THE DISHES
I RECOGNIZE THAT SMILE, CURTIS - WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
MY GOODNESS, CURTIS, THERE IS STILL FOOD STUCK ON THESE PLATES
I PURPOSELY DID A POOR JOB SO SHE'LL NEVER ASK ME TO DO IT AGAIN
MY GOODNESS, CURTIS, YOU DIDN'T RINSE ALL THE SOAP OFF THE GLASSES
GIGGLE GIGGLE GIGGLE
SORRY, MOM, I DON'T BLAME YOU IF YOU NEVER ASK ME TO EVER DO THEM AGAIN
NO, CURTIS, YOU JUST NEED MORE PRACTICE
I'LL STAND OVER YOU AND WATCH WHILE YOU DO IT OVER AND OVER UNTIL YOU GET THEM SPARKLING CLEAN!
'K
BILLINGSLEY 1-17
MY GOODNESS, CURTIS, MY GOODNESS INDEED.

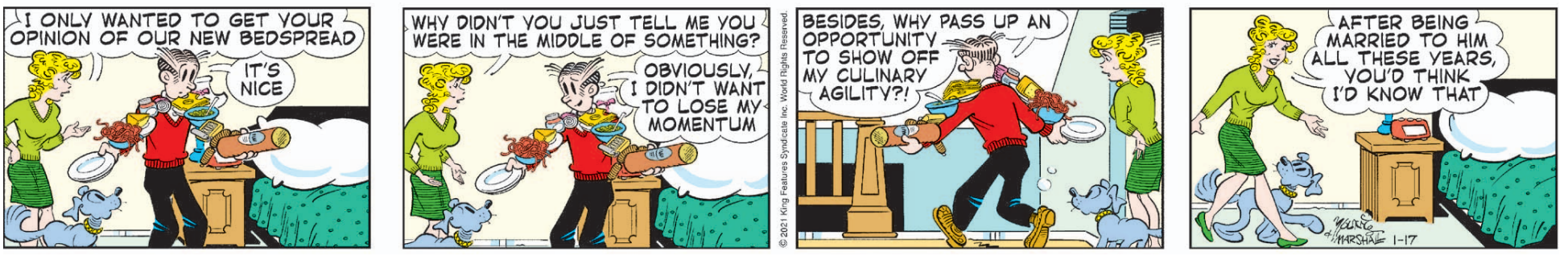
Mort Walker's beetle bailey®



BLONDIE®

BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL


I'D BE A SANDWICH MAESTRO IF I HAD TWO MORE ARMS!
SWEETHEART, CAN YOU COME UPSTAIRS FOR A MINUTE?
WHAT'S UP?
I'M SORRY, DEAR! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE MAKING A SANDWICH!
www.blondie.com


I ONLY WANTED TO GET YOUR OPINION OF OUR NEW BEDSPREAD
IT'S NICE
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST TELL ME YOU WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF SOMETHING?
OBVIOUSLY, I DIDN'T WANT TO LOSE MY MOMENTUM
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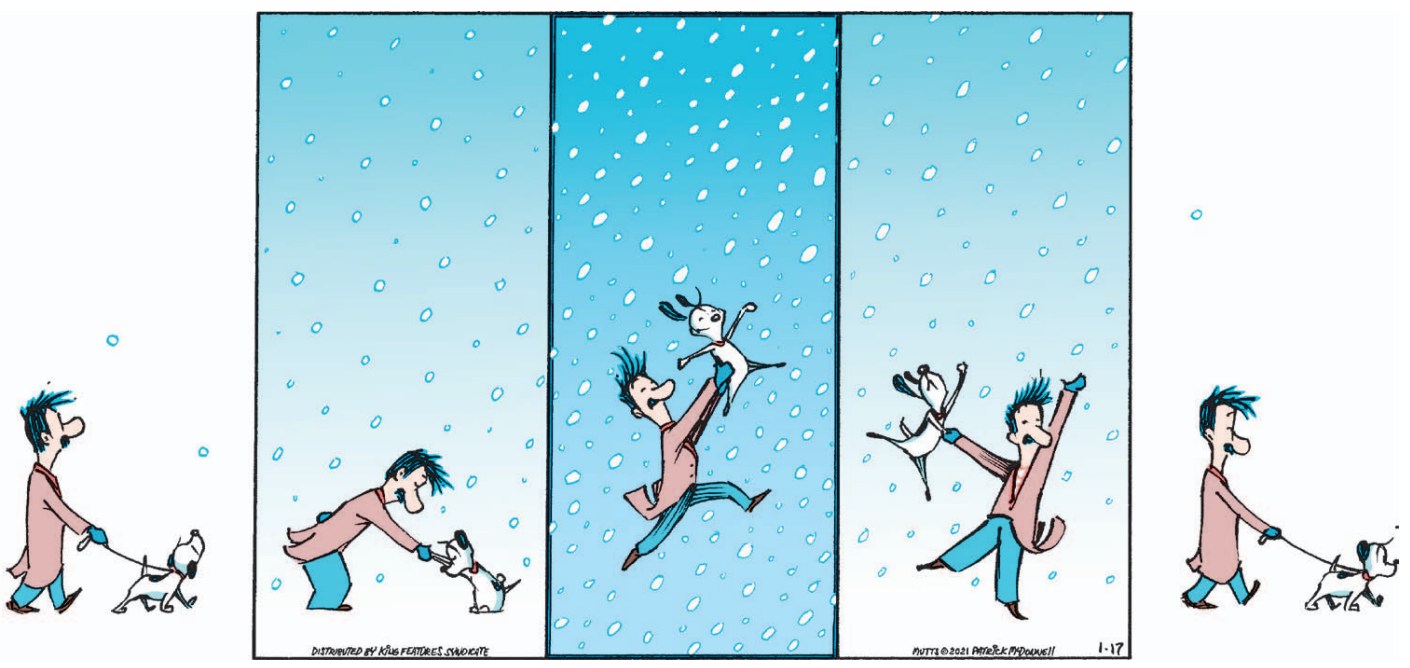
BESIDES, WHY PASS UP AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW OFF MY CULINARY AGILITY?!
AFTER BEING MARRIED TO HIM ALL THESE YEARS, YOU'D THINK I'D KNOW THAT
1-17

MUTTS

Patrick McDonnell



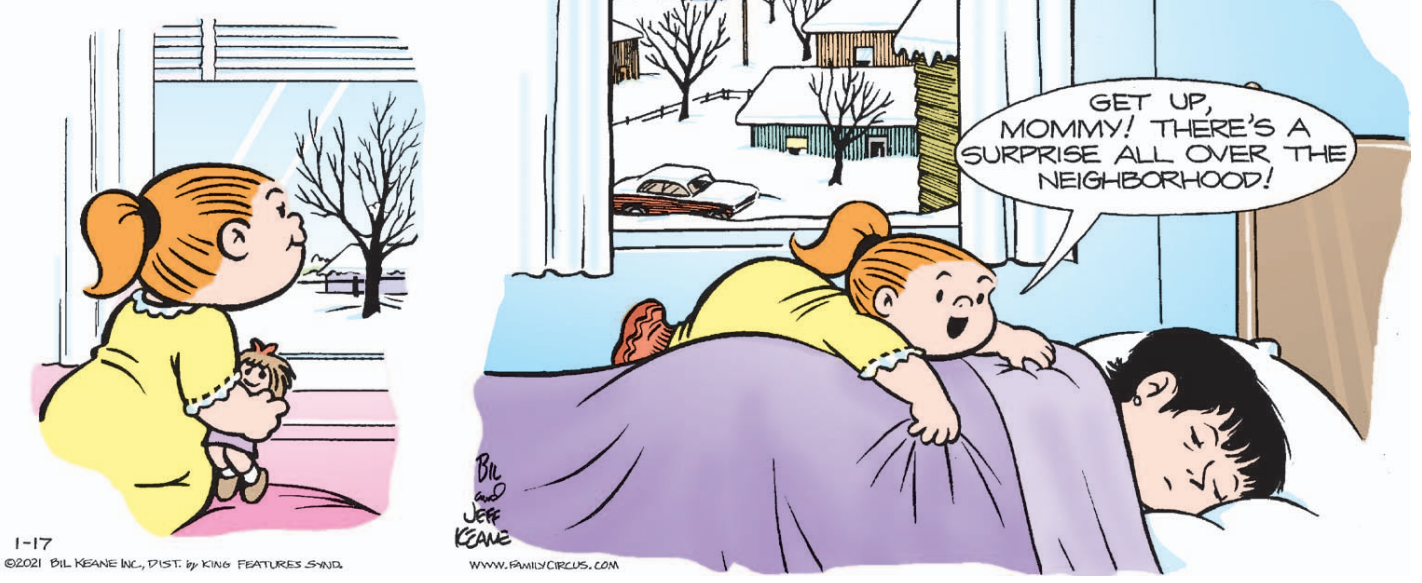
Hi and Lois

by BRIAN and GREG WALKER

IT HASN'T SNOWED FOR A WHILE.
BUT ALL THE TRAILS ARE OPEN.
BUNNY BUSTER
MOGUL MOUNTAIN
©2021 Comcana, Inc. Distributed by King Features Syndicate
THEY WERE OUT BLOWING ALL NIGHT.
THIS IS PRETTY GOOD FOR MAN-MADE.
HandLois.com
HOW DO YOU KNOW A WOMAN DIDN'T MAKE IT?
SHE'S RIGHT. WE'RE MUCH BETTER AT GROOMING.
ERIC REYNOLDS
1-17

The FAMILY CIRCUS®

BY BIL KEANE


GET UP, MOMMY! THERE'S A SURPRISE ALL OVER THE NEIGHBORHOOD!
BIL and JEFF KEANE
1-17
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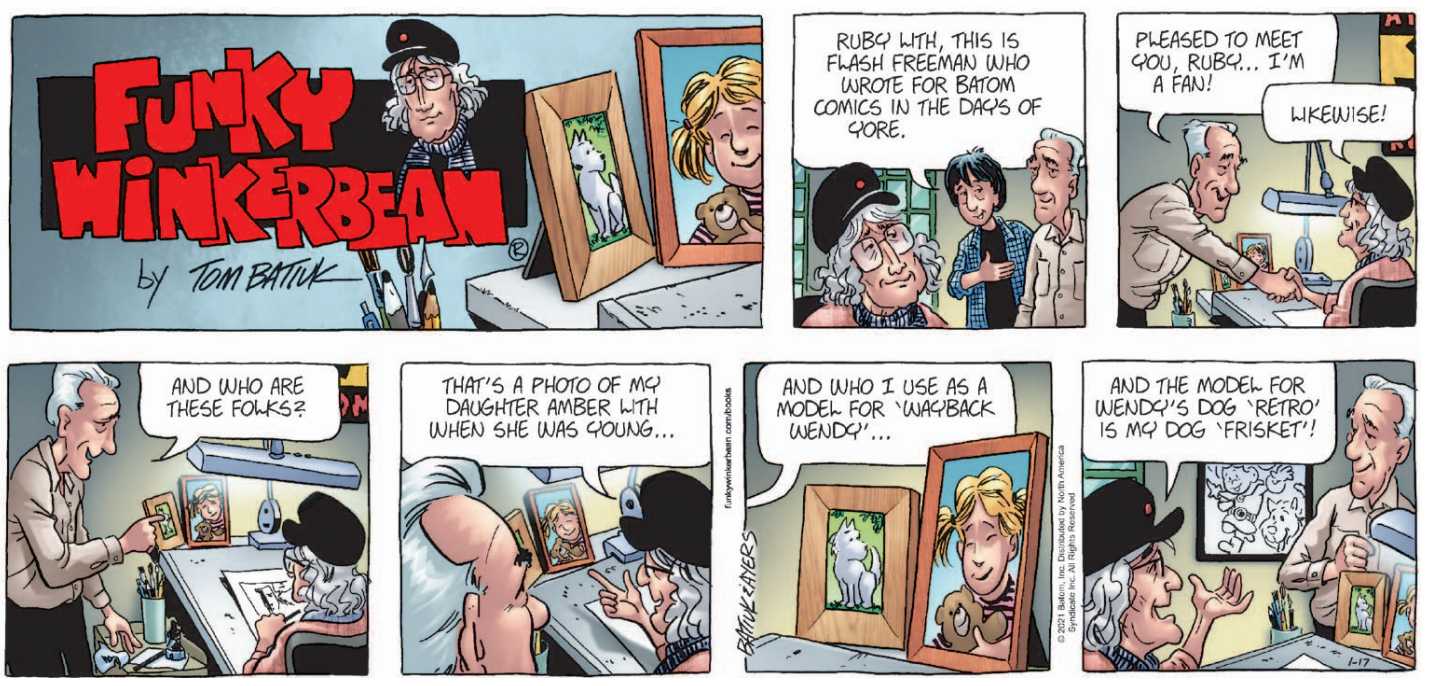
FUNKY WINKERBEAN®

by TOM BATIUK


RUBY WITH, THIS IS FLASH FREEMAN WHO WROTE FOR BATOM COMICS IN THE DAY'S OF YORE.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, RUBY... I'M A FAN!
LIKEWISE!
AND WHO ARE THESE FOLKS?
THAT'S A PHOTO OF MY DAUGHTER AMBER WITH WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG...
AND WHO I USE AS A MODEL FOR 'WAYBACK WENDY'...
AND THE MODEL FOR WENDY'S DOG 'RETRO' IS MY DOG 'FRISKET'!
funkywinkerbean.com/books
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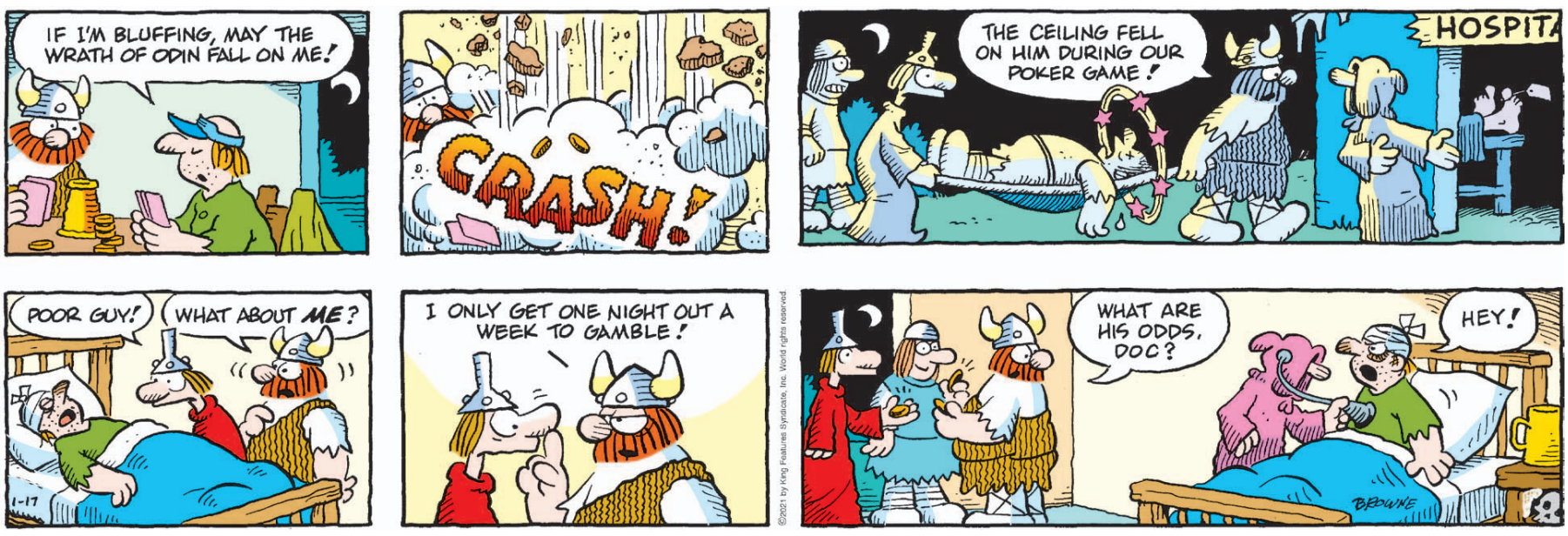
1-17

HAGAR the horrible

by DIK BROWNE


IF I'M BLUFFING, MAY THE WRATH OF ODIN FALL ON ME!
CRASH!
THE CEILING FELL ON HIM DURING OUR POKER GAME!
HOSPIT
POOR GUY!
WHAT ABOUT ME?
1-17
I ONLY GET ONE NIGHT OUT A WEEK TO GAMBLE!
WHAT ARE HIS ODDS, DOC?
HEY!
BROWNE

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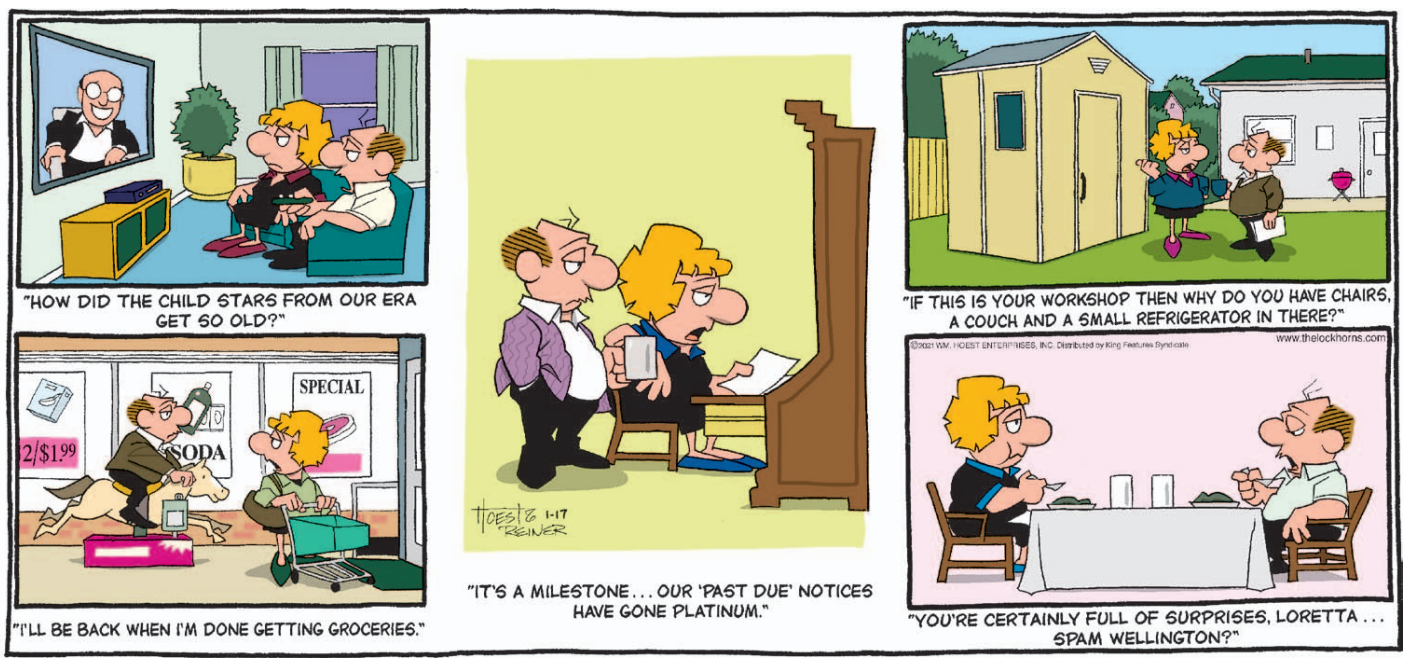
THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER


"HOW DID THE CHILD STARS FROM OUR ERA GET SO OLD?"
SPECIAL
2/$1.99
SODA
"I'LL BE BACK WHEN I'M DONE GETTING GROCERIES."
HOEST & REINER 1-17
"IT'S A MILESTONE... OUR 'PAST DUE' NOTICES HAVE GONE PLATINUM."
"IF THIS IS YOUR WORKSHOP THEN WHY DO YOU HAVE CHAIRS, A COUCH AND A SMALL REFRIGERATOR IN THERE?"
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www.thelockhorns.com
"YOU'RE CERTAINLY FULL OF SURPRISES, LORETTA... SPAM WELLINGTON?"

SALLY FORTH®

by Francesco Marciuliano

ARE YOU FINISHED WITH YOUR "UNDERSTANDABLY NECESSARY ALONE TIME" YET? BECAUSE I CAN'T GET INTO MY BOOK AND I MISS US WATCHING "NAILED IT!" TOGETHER.
TWENTY MORE MINUTES. JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR YOU TO PICK OUT THE PERFECT VIEWING SNACK.
KEEFE
1-17

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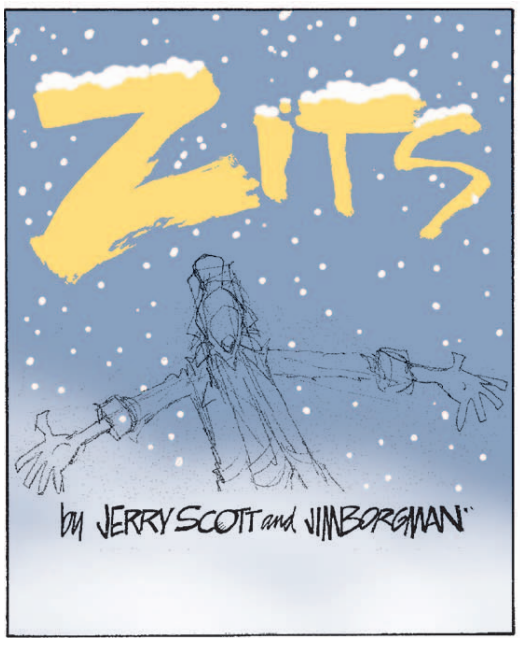
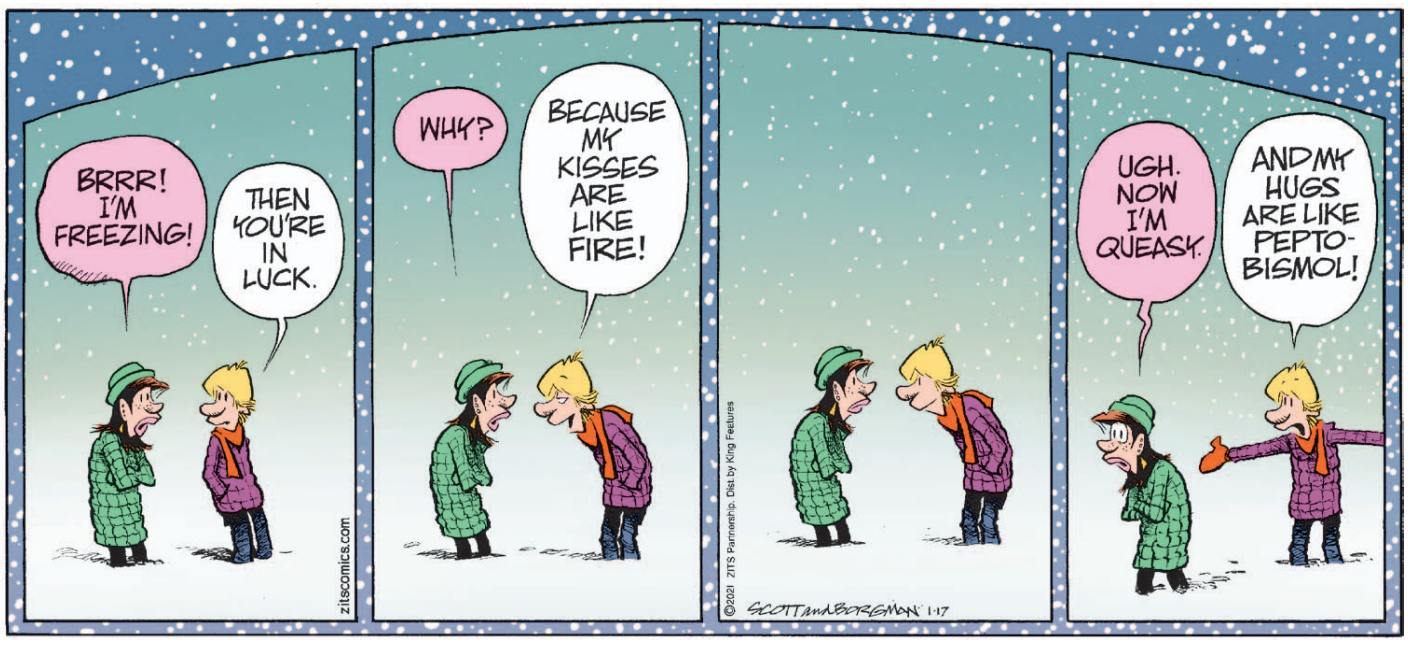
ZITS

by JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN




BRRR! I'M FREEZING!
THEN YOU'RE IN LUCK.
WHY?
BECAUSE MY KISSES ARE LIKE FIRE!
UGH. NOW I'M QUEASY.
AND MY HUGS ARE LIKE PEPTO-BISMOL!
zitscomics.com
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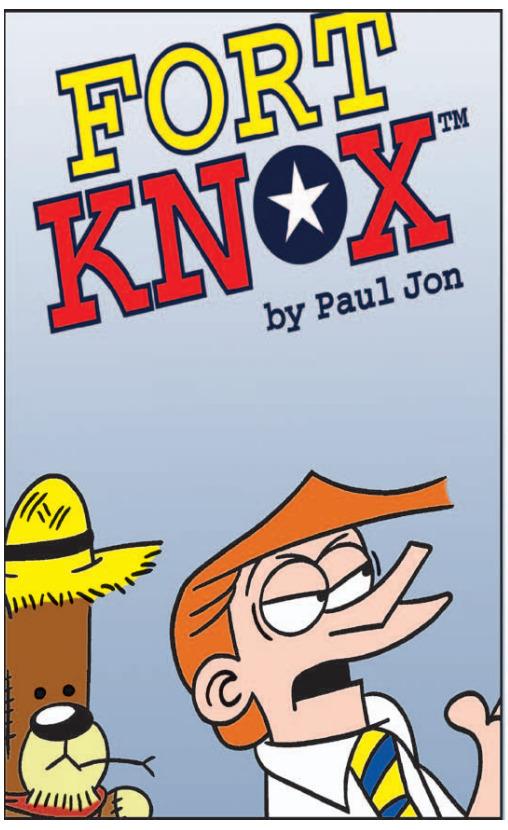
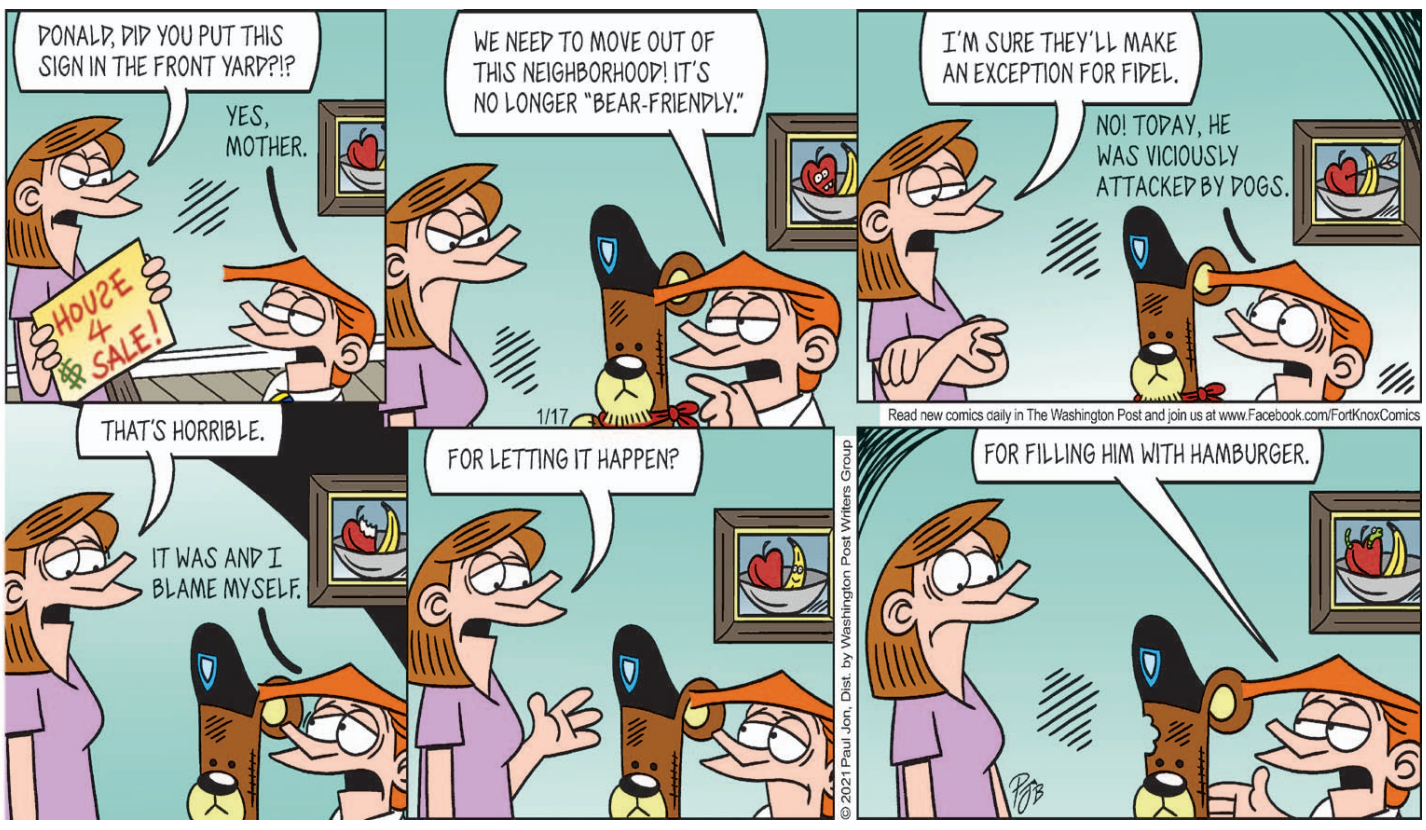
SCOTT and BORGMAN 1-17

FORT KNOX™

by Paul Jon




DONALD, DID YOU PUT THIS SIGN IN THE FRONT YARD?!?
YES, MOTHER.
HOUZE 4 SALE!
THAT'S HORRIBLE.
IT WAS AND I BLAME MYSELF.
WE NEED TO MOVE OUT OF THIS NEIGHBORHOOD! IT'S NO LONGER "BEAR-FRIENDLY."
1/17
FOR LETTING IT HAPPEN?
I'M SURE THEY'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION FOR FIDEL.
NO! TODAY, HE WAS VICIOUSLY ATTACKED BY DOGS.
FOR FILLING HIM WITH HAMBURGER.
Read new comics daily in The Washington Post and join us at www.Facebook.com/FortKnoxComics
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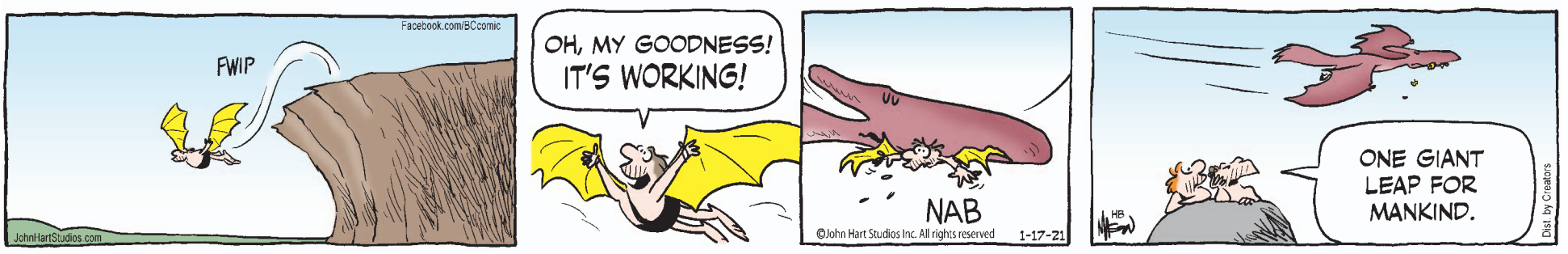
WIZARD OF ID

by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

BC

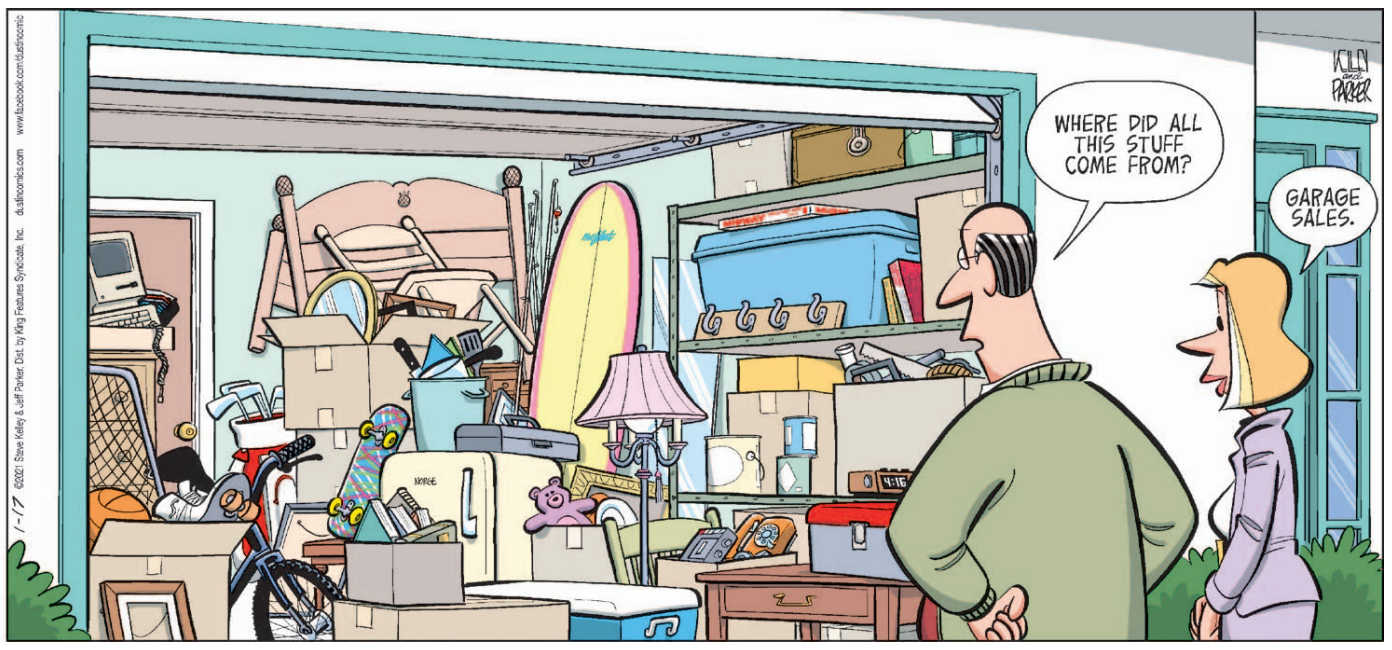
BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



Bizarro

DUSTIN

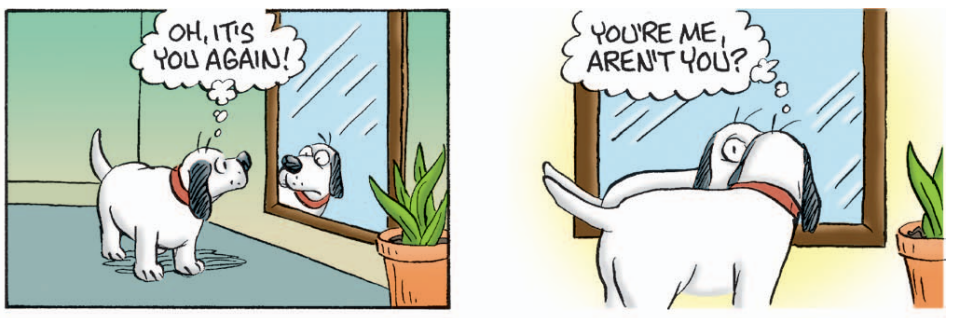
By STEVE KELLEY and JEFF PARKER

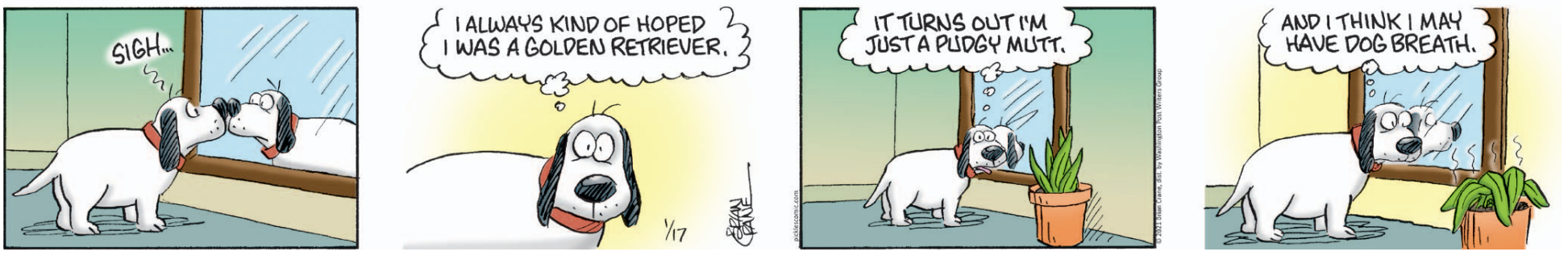


MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

PICKLES

by BRIAN CRANE



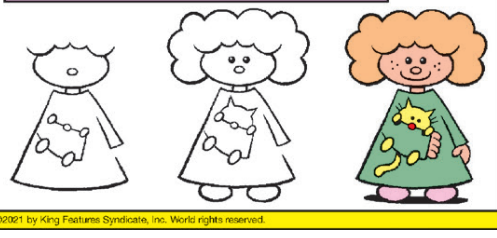


Bob Weber Jr.'s SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

The shop manager is accusing Lady Lynx of trying to walk out wearing a hat she didn't pay for. But the stylish cat insists she bought the hat yesterday and just stopped into the shop to browse. Why does Slylock Fox believe Lady Lynx?

Solution -- Slylock noticed a water drop falling from Lady Lynx's hat. The hat is wet because she stepped in out of the rain.

HOW TO DRAW a girl and her kitty



YOUR DRAWING

Today's terrific artist is Maya, age 8

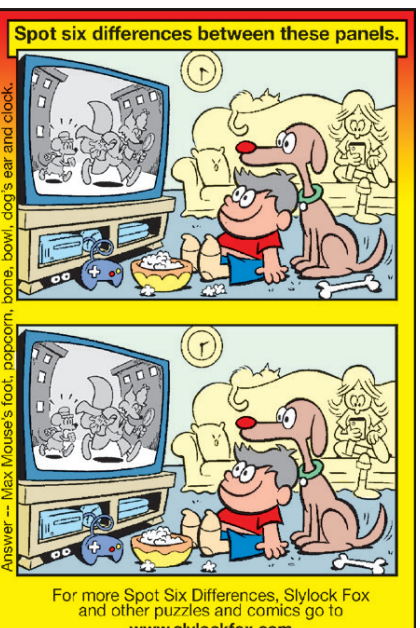
Submit your black-and-white drawing to **www.slylockfox.com**

How many times per second does a honeybee flap its wings?

a) 75
b) 180
c) 230
d) 520

Answer -- c)

Spot six differences between these panels.



Answer -- Max Mouse's foot, popcorn, bone, bowl, dog's ear and clock.

For more Spot Six Differences, Slylock Fox and other puzzles and comics go to **www.slylockfox.com**

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